# A SURVEY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT in dade county, florida

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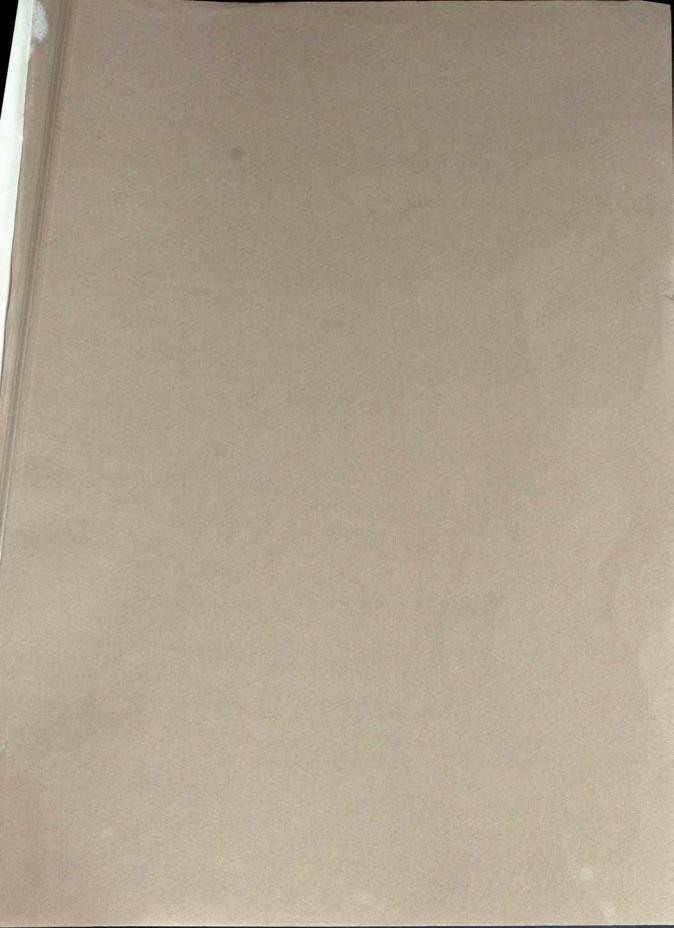
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ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND URBAN SYSTEMS
SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY
JUNE 1974







A SURVEY OF

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

IN DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

JOSE T. VILLATE, PH.D.

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND URBAN SYSTEMS
SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

PROJECT COORDINATOR
KITTY S. ROEDEL

June 1974

December 10, 1973

Dr. Jose T. Villate
Division of Environmental
Technology and Urban Systems
School of Technology
Florida International University
Miami, Florida 33144

Dear Dr. Villate:

In response to your request of September, 1973, for a survey of solid waste management in Dade County, Florida, we submit herewith our report.

In addition to the survey of geographical, political factors, and existing disposal methods, we have included general recommendations for what we consider to be the first step in developing an optimum system of solid waste disposal.

Sincerely,

Solid Waste Management Class

(by Kitty S. Roedel, Coordinator)

KSR/pe

Encl: "A Survey of Solid Waste Management in Dade County, Florida"

# A SURVEY OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

# An Environmental Technology Study

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To the County, Pince Manual III

# PREFACE

We addressed ourselves to the solid waste problem as students and as citizens. As students, we realize that the management of the large amount of unwanted items is technically complex and, therefore, our report is more of a survey than an indepth study of the problem. We gathered information from many sources and placed emphasis on Dade County because this is where we live, work and study, and because of the environmental importance of this county. We used the word MANAGEMENT in the title of our report to emphasize the fact that solid wastes are natural resources which require management and not disposal.

In the process of addressing ourselves to the solid waste problem as citizens, we developed an awareness that each of us is a waste contributor. Therefore, we felt that it was our duty to explore some of the methods of solid waste management, to study some of the alternatives, and to participate in the decision-making process which will lead to the most desirable method of solid waste management.

Our report shows that we have: (1) Determined the need for a solution to the solid waste problem; (2) collected some data; (3) analyzed some of the existing methods of disposal and some of the possible and more desirable management methods; considered the effect of solid waste mismanagement on our air, water, and land; and (4) established the need for a comprehensive approach to the solid waste problem to obtain maximum benefits and to protect our environment and public health.

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Although we did not have time to obtain enough data to present a definite proposal, we are submitting some recommendations. It is our hope that our efforts will be useful to other students, and to citizens and public officials, when considering the management of solid wastes in Dade County.

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# I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. SOLID WASTE: A NATIONAL PROBLEM

Each year Americans produce greater quantities of solid wastes. Affluence, multiple packaging, built-in obsolescence, and the convenience of disposable consumer items are factors in this production of solid wastes. It has been estimated that the United States generates approximately 3.5 billion tons of total solid wastes every year; these total wastes include domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, animal, and mining wastes.

Besides creating solid wastes, the discarding of unwanted items help reduce available natural resources. For example, of the 190 million tons of major metals, paper, glass, rubber, and textiles used in the United States annually, 143 million tons are obtained from virgin resources; the remaining 47 million tons are obtained from recovery operations. These recovered materials are the discards of industrial processing and manufacturing activities, rather than from products discarded into the municipal solid waste stream.

In addition to depleting natural resources, the present methods of handling and disposing of solid wastes often contribute to environmental degradation. According to a national survey of community solid waste practices published in 1968, only six percent of the nation's land disposal sites met accepted minimum

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requirements for a sanitary landfill. Some 14,000 communities relied on open dumps—a majority of which were, by design or by accident, frequently on fire. Some 70 percent of the country's municipal incinerators were judged to have inadequate air or water pollution controls—even in 1968, when standards were substantially more lenient than they are today.

No more than a handful of the municipal incinerators currently in place meet the existing Air Quality New Source Performance Standards of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In coastal communities, problems center not so much around open dumps or air polluting incinerators as around ocean dumping. The evidence indicates that such communities barge annually close to 50 million tons of solid wastes and sludges out to sea, seldom in treated form.

Active enforcement of water pollution laws is beginning to play a role in improving the environmental aspects of solid waste disposal, but in a more limited way than air pollution actions. For example, only seven large open dumps have been closed under EPA's Harbors and Refuse Act. Hopefully, the trend will increase in areas where dumps are located adjacent to rivers and waterways.

With support from EPA in the form of grants for planning purposes, some states are beginning to give attention to the environmental aspects of solid waste management. Many states have passed, and are in the process of implementing, programs to license land disposal sites and to ensure that applicable air

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and water pollution standards and zoning restrictions are met.

New incinerators cannot be constructed unless they comply with

EPA's new and very tight national air emission standards.

EPA's Office of Solid Waste Management Programs (OSWMP) is developing—and soon will be issuing—guidelines which establish standards that must be adhered to by all federal agencies in the operation of their own land disposal sites and incinerators.

In spite of all this recent progress--much of which has been the by-product of actions aimed, not at solid waste but, at air and water pollution--the principal method of disposing of the nation's solid wastes remains the open dump. Thus, the United States, a world leader in technology, still relies on a primitive system for the disposal of its solid wastes.

Solid waste management is, then, a fundamental issue. It illustrates, perhaps more clearly than any other environmental problem, the need to change many traditional attitudes and habits. It shows very clearly and concretely the need to adjust public and private institutions to solve the problems created by an undesirable and inefficient policy of solid waste disposal which includes environmental damage and the misuse of non-renewable natural resources.

In the past, the low population and the vastness of a country with a seemingly endless supply of natural resources encouraged the easiest method of disposal. The energies of the people were absorbed in converting the natural wealth into an abundance of consumer goods. The best technology and the finest

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management skills were applied at every step in the production, marketing, and distribution of consumer products. Yet, the final step in the process was overlooked, and neither technology nor management was widely applied to the ultimate disposal of the products. Thus, the "closing of the circle" in the chain of production and use was neglected and this carelessness was inherited by subsequent generations.

Public concern for the environment has indicated the need for a new approach to the solid waste problem and a new concept of solid waste management is emerging. It assumes that a workable system for managing the nation's wastes can be devised by making some changes in the social, political, and economic spheres.

Implicit in the changes is the need for:

- Controlling the quantity and characteristics of the solid wastes.
- 2. Collecting and processing efficiently these wastes.
- 3. Recovering and recycling those wastes that can be reused.
- 4. Disposing properly of those wastes for which there is no further use.

The Environmental Protection Agency, under the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965 and its amendment, the Resources Recovery Act of 1970, has been engaged in research, demonstrations, planning, training, and in various technical and financial activities to help achieve changes in the management of solid wastes.

Accordingly, Congress allocated \$260 million to the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Solid Waste Management Prond water policitor are described and control of the same beauty with

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In the past, one low population and the vertices of a country with a depute of constant of the contrast cascurate of the contrast of the contr

grams (OSWMP). The present administration, however, indicated that only \$6 million would be spent and the Office of Management and Budget opposed the legislative proposals advanced by the EPA in its report to congress on resource recovery. It should be noted that the present solid waste law expires on July 1974 and that the Senate Commerce Committee will meet to decide what legislative support can be given to solid waste management. (1)

of great interest to those concerned with the environmental aspects of solid waste management is the issue of, and the need for, resource recovery and recycling. The establishment of thousands of neighborhood recycling centers and redemption depots throughout the country gives ample testimony that citizens and industry alike are beginning to realize that resource recovery is a basic and desirable course of action.

The principal obstacles to resource recovery are economic and institutional—not technological. It is imperative that the Federal Government support solid waste management by giving assistance to the recycling industry; i.e., the secondary materials industry. The Federal Government must give the secondary materials industry the same treatment on such matters as tax law, transportation rates, procurement policies, zoning regulations, and licensing policies, as are given to the virgin and primary industries.

However, success in improving solid waste management is dependent ultimately upon actions that must be taken by all seg-

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ments of society and by state and local governments. The general public must recognize the complex nature of the solid waste problem and support the reforms that are necessary. Cities and local units of government must give solid waste management greater attention and place this function on a sound financial basis through application of user charges or some other means to raise equitably the revenues needed. At the same time, rational land use policies must be developed and implemented. Industry must also assume greater responsibility for reducing the impact of its solid waste stream by not "over-packaging" consumer products, by substituting processes with low-waste yields for present intensive-waste processes, by abandoning the principle of "planned obsolescence" and creating more durable products, and by increasing the reuse of secondary materials. (2)

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### B. THE SOLID WASTE PROBLEM IN FLORIDA

A solid waste survey conducted in 1968-69 by the State
Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, (3) with cooperation from the
Bureau of Entomology and the Sanitation Section of the State
Division of Health, showed that Floridians were generating 5
million tons of solid waste per year. This large quantity of
waste was increasing at an annual rate of 4 percent annually;
half of the increase (2 percent) is due to increasing population
and the other 2 percent to an increase in the generation of
solid wastes. Should this growth continue, "a staggering amount"
of 22 million tons of refuse would be generated each year. This
quantity would cover a road 25 feet wide from Jacksonville to
Miami, to a height of 50 feet.

This situation has important consequences for the State of Florida because urban living represented 75 percent of the 1960 population and approximately 85 percent of the population in 1970. Thus, the solid wastes are not generated proportionately over the state's 54,250 square miles, since 180 Florida cities with populations of 2,500 or more, representing 58 percent of the state's population, occupy less than 2 percent of the land area. With the average population density of 2,725 persons per square mile in these cities, the need for collecting and disposing efficiently of the solid wastes generated is obvious.

The survey showed also that there was a lack of interest, planning, organization, reliable data, equipment, personnel, and moneys for the proper collection and disposal of the solid wastes

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in a large percentage of the counties. The 23 largest counties were surveyed in detail by the survey staff while information about the smaller counties was obtained from the county sanitarians.

The State of Florida Department of Pollution Control has full responsibility for the regulation of solid waste practices. The only other agencies which might be involved in specific instances are the Department of Health relating to environmental health problems, and the Bureau of Entomology awarding funds for mosquito control in sanitary landfills.

Responsibilities of the Department of Pollution Control (DPC) were delegated by the 1973 Legislative session. Prior to that time, the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services had the duties of enforcing Chapter 10D-12 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) "Garbage and Rubbish". Chapter 10D-12 was also transferred by the Legislature to the DPC and is in the process of being revised and renumbered as Chapter 17-7 F.A.C. "Solid Waste Control". Under this chapter, the DPC has authority for surveillance and for approval of local solid waste management plans, including composting and mechanical disposal methods. Enforcement is also initiated by the Department when a disposal method is violating the law. Incineration is regulated under 17-2 F.A.C. "Air Pollution", and the DPC issues construction and operation permits on incinerators in compliance with that law.

At the present time, the total department's solid waste field staff (6 people) is compiling an inventory of all landfill sites in the state. After completion of this inventory, sur-

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veillance and enforcement of those operations will take place to bring these landfills into compliance with Chapter 17-7 F.A.C. Every incinerator in the state either is in compliance with state law or has a compliance schedule which will bring it into compliance prior to the July 1, 1975 deadline set in Chapter 17-2 F.A.C. (3)

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## II. GEOGRAPHICAL AND POLITICAL DATA ON DADE COUNTY

#### A. POLITICAL BOUNDARIES AND GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

Dade County is formed by 27 municipalities and by the unincorporated area within the county. The governmental structure
differs somewhat among the municipalities and the unincorporated
area. The collection and disposal of solid wastes in the municipalities and in the unincorporated area is accomplished by municipal agencies, or private contractors, or is the responsibility
of each resident. Their sanitation budgets are approved by
their governments as part of the total yearly operating budget.

Figure 1 shows the 27 municipalities in Dade County as well as the unincorporated area, and Table I presents the forms of government, the total operating budget, the sanitation budget, and the agency responsible for sanitation.

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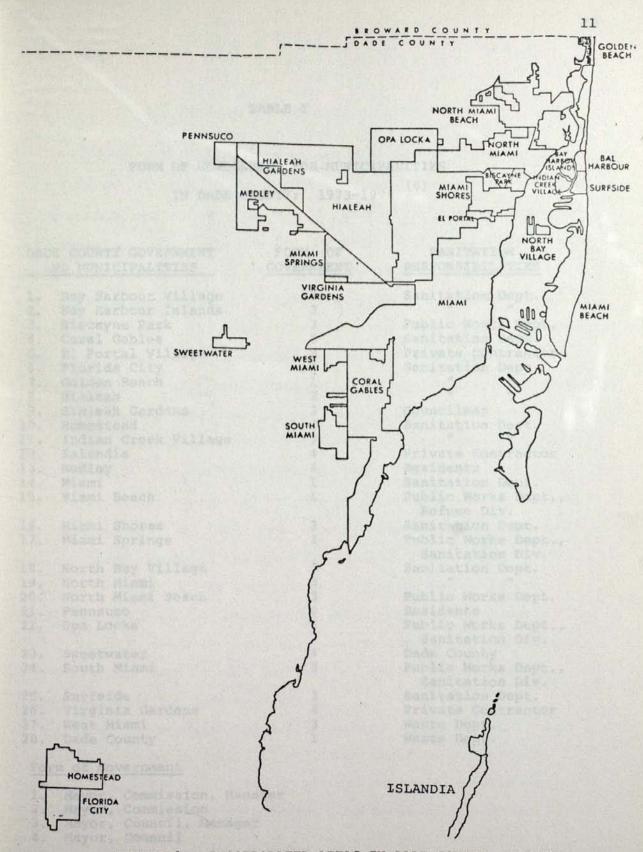


FIGURE 1. INCORPORATED AREAS IN DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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# TABLE I

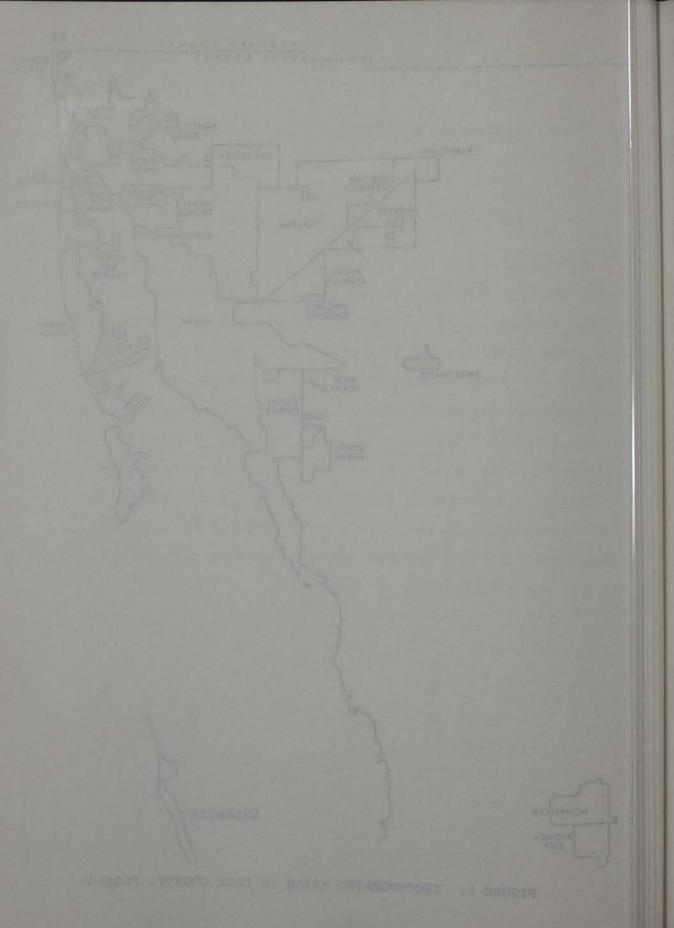
# FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR MUNICIPALITIES

IN DADE COUNTY: 1973-1974 (4)

	E COUNTY GOVERNMENT	FORM OF GOVERNMENT	SANITATION RESPONSIBILITIES
1.	Bay Harbour Village	evenera 3 the po	Sanitation Dept.
2.	Bay Harbour Islands	3	
3.	Biscayne Park	dentral 3 add no =	Public Works Dept.
4.	Coral Gables	3	Sanitation Dept.
5.	El Portal Village	urther 3 dress	Private Contractor
6.	Florida City	4	Sanitation Dept.
7.	Golden Beach	dibutes 1-the ma	tempolition areas showed
8.	Hialeah	3	
9.	Hialeah Gardens	3	Councilman
	Homestead	3	Sanitation Dept.
11.	Indian Creek Village	3	La witch "prester rate
	Islandia	4	Private Contractor
	Medley	4	Residents
	Miami	1	Sanitation Dept.
15.	Miami Beach	Lawrente by in	Public Works Dept., Refuse Div.
16.	Miami Shores	3	Sanitation Dept.
17.	Miami Springs	3	Public Works Dept., Sanitation Div.
18.	North Bay Village	3	Sanitation Dept.
19.	North Miami	3 3	Dade County to rose
20.	North Miami Beach	3	Public Works Dept.
21.	Pennsuco	4	Residents
22.	Opa Locka	3	Public Works Dept., Sanitation Div.
23.	Sweetwater	4	Dade County
24.	South Miami	increa3e and n	Public Works Dept., Sanitation Div.
25.	Surfside	3	Sanitation Dept.
26.	Virginia Gardens	3 4	Private Contractor
27.	West Miami	3	Waste Dept.
28.	Dade County	1	Waste Dept.

# Form of Government

- Mayor, Commission, Manager 1.
- 2. Mayor, Commission
  3. Mayor, Council, Manager
  4. Mayor, Council



## B. POPULATION AND GROWTH RATES

Very few metropolitan areas have experienced a population increase as did Dade County during the last decade. Many reasons have been presented to explain this population increase and the growth rates. This presentation, however, will attempt only to give a concise summary of the demographical phenomenon.

According to the 1960 census, the population of the United States increased by 13 percent bringing the total to 203 million. The 1970 census showed a further increase of 24 million. This growth was not evenly distributed—the metropolitan areas showed a greater growth rate than the nation as a whole. And some urban areas increased their populations at a much greater rate than others. Dade County was one of them; from 1960 to 1970 it almost tripled the national average by increasing its population by 35.6 percent. In fact, Dade County "absorbed over 18 percent of the total growth of the state of Florida, which showed a 37 percent increase during this decade." (5) Dade County is considered one of the fastest growing urban areas in the country.

Table II shows the population change inside and outside the central city; both natural increase and net migration were higher outside the central city.

Table III presents the annual changes in population from March 1950 to March 1972. It should be noted that the population increase between 1950 and 1960 was 439,000; that between 1960 and 1970 was 332,800 persons. The total for the 20-year

period, 772,700 persons, represents more than half of the present population, estimated at approximately 1,300,000. It is estimated that about 70 percent of the net migrants in the period 1960-1970 were Cuban refugees who now comprise a total of roughly 500,000.

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TABLE II

POPULATION CHANGE INSIDE CENTRAL CITY AND OUTSIDE CENTRAL CITY (Source: Metro Dade County Planning Department) (6)

	1970 Population	Change From 1960		Components of Change	of Change	TARREST CONTRACTOR
			Natural Increase	Net Migration	Percent Natural Increase	Percent Net Migration
Dade County	1,267,792	332,745	78,437	254,308	8.4	27.2
Inside Central City	334,859	43,171	19,459	23,712	6.7	8.1
Outside Central City	932,933	289,574	58,978	230,596	9.2	35.8

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TABLE III

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE IN DADE COUNTY: 1960-1972

(Source: Metro Dade County Planning Department) (6)

Year	Natura:	l Increase	Net	Total
Ending March 31	Amount	Per 1,000	Migration	Increase
1950				
1951	6,700	13.0	37,000	43,700
1952	7,200	12.9	28,600	35,800
1953	7,700	12.9	39,200	46,900
1954	8,300	13.0	35,500	43,800
1955	9,000	13.0	35,500	44,500
1956	10,000	13.6	41,500	51,500
1957	11,000	13.9	48,100	59,100
1958	11,400	13.6	36,800	48,200
1959	11,300	12.7	22,600	33,900
1960	11,200	12.2	21,400	32,500
Totals	93,800		346,200	439,900
1961	11,200	11.8	29,600	40,800
1962	10,700	10.6	45,700	56,400
1963	9,941	9.5	22,900	32,800
1964	9,070	8.5	5,900	15,000
1965	8,139	7.5	9,100	17,200
1966	6,826	6.1	19,700	26,500
1967	6,141	5.4	26,000	32,100
1968	5,168	4.4	28,600	33,800
1969	5,447	4.5	30,500	35,900
1970	5,197	4.2	37,100	42,300
Totals	77,829		255,100	332,800
1971	6,700	5.2	40,900	47,600
1972	5,481	4.1	46,700	52,200

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## C. PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

"South Florida" is a strip of land 140 miles long in a north-south direction and with an east-west width of 120 miles. It includes the area south of Palm Beach County and that of Dade County, but not the Florida Keys.

The present Florida mainland is the top of a vast submarine plateau; its southeastern and southern edges are near the present shoreline but its western edge is many miles to the west. South Florida has large flat areas and an average elevation of less than 20 feet; the elevations of the East Coast average 10 feet higher than those along the West Coast. The mainland flora is divided mainly into pineland and swamp. The pineland includes the hammocks, isolated patches of hardwood trees of several genera, and the grassy tracts or prairies; the swampland includes the coastal swamps with their characteristic mangroves. (7)

Topographically, South Florida consists of dunes, rolling sand plains, rock ridges, and flat lands. The dunes, found most often near the coast, are composed of medium-fine quartz sand, varying in tint from pale yellow to orange or light reddish brown. The rolling sand plains are sandy stretches which undulate in broad swales and low ridges. In the swales are shallow lakes or lagoons, wet prairies, or cypress swamps.

Along the East Coast, the sand plains form a belt which extends southward from the north side of Palm Beach County to the Miami

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County is a major vacation toward of the county are touched beard organizations, including potenty. Yearly equivalent truries populations, the county to be about 10 percent of the percent over a resident to be about 10 percent of the percent to t

River. Rock ridges are not abundant in South Florida and those present may not rise more than two feet above the level of the surrounding land; it is probable that nowhere do the rock ridges exceed 25 feet above sea level. On the East Coast, rock ridges of oolite limestone extend from five miles north of Miami to Homestead and separate the sawgrass swamp of the Everglades from the fringe of mangrove swamps and salt prairie on the western shores of Biscayne Bay. The name flat lands is applied to the pinelands which lie between the rolling sand plains and the Everglades. The flat lands form a discontinuous strip which extends from Palm Beach County to the New River, in Dade County. The swamp land of South Florida includes the sawgrass glades of the Everglades, the cypress swamps, the salt meadows, and the mangrove swamps. (7)

Area. Dade County is the largest county in Florida, with an area of 2,054 square miles of which 1,023 square miles is under federal-state control and 1,031 square miles is privately owned. (8) Less than 200 square miles of land is under development and another 650 square miles is readily developable. (5) The majority of development is on the Atlantic Coast Ridge. A great portion of the remainder of the county, south and west of the Atlantic Coast Ridge, consists of the Everglades. Most of the Everglades National Park is located in Dade County.

Geology of Dade County. The name "Miami oolite" is applied to all the oolite limestone of South Florida. The typical Miami oolite is soft white and contains as much as 95 percent calcium

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Topographically outs flet lands. The money found and other mean the country of th

carbonate; it contains marine shells indicating its marine origin. Miami onlite underlies all of Dade County except a part of the Everglades. At many places, percolating waters have dissolved the calcium carbonate and redeposited it elsewhere, thus destroying the onlitic appearance of the rock and/or making it vesicular. (9)

Soils of Dade County. The soils of Dade County were derived from marine deposits formed when the sea covered this region, and from recent deposits of organic materials and marl. The soils exhibit many shades of color, from whitish through gray, yellow, and brown, to nearly black. The texture ranges from fine sands to silt loams and clay loams. (10)

Climate. The climate of Dade County is characterized by warm temperatures, ample rainfall and light winds. Mean annual temperature is about 75°F with a daily average of about 82°F for summer and 67°F for winter. (11)

The average annual rainfall for Dade County is about 59 inches. (12) However, during hurricanes rainfall rates may be as high as 10 inches or more in 24 hours resulting in above-average yearly rainfall and short-term flooding. On the other hand, deficiencies of up to 30.6 inches per year below average have also occurred. (11)

On a yearly basis, wind speed averages about 9.3 mph. However, hurricanes offer an extreme condition where winds may exceed 100 mph. Special studies in the Miami area have shown the evapotranspiration rate to be about 35 inches per year. (11) Private New Colors are not absorbed to such that there are not to the seasons of the seasons are not to the seasons are the seasons are not to the seasons are the seasons are not to t

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#### D. HYDROGEOLOGY

Miami and surrounding municipalities is one of the few large cities in the world that is located on land only a few feet above sea level. (13) Dade County sits at the downstream end of a vast watershed covering the South Florida area. Lake Okeechobee, which receives fresh water from the Kissimmee River to its north, overflows in a vast sheet of water that flows southward through the Big Cypress Swamp and the Everglades. The water that reaches the Everglades plus the high yearly rainfall of almost 60 inches in Dade County recharges our large underground reservoir known as the Biscayne Aquifer. (14) (See Figure 2)

This aquifer is less than ten feet thick along the western edge of the county and expands to 80 and to 150 feet thick along Biscayne Bay. Large quantities of water can easily be drawn from it by pumping because it is a highly permeable limestone and sandstone aquifer. Lateral inflow from canals and the recharge by rainwater infiltration are generally unrestricted. (15) The levels of ground and surface waters of the county tend to be closely related because of their interconnection due to the high permeability of the aquifer. Surface water outflow, evapotranspiration, seepage to the ocean and pumping from the aquifer lower the water table while local rainfall and surface-water inflow raise it. (14) (See Figure 3)

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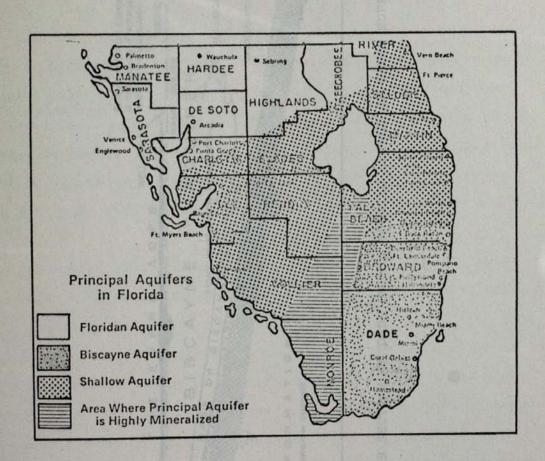


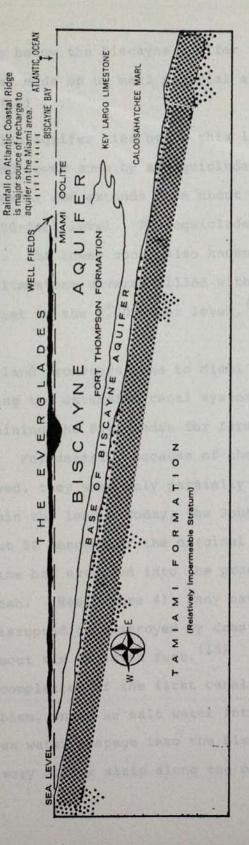
FIGURE 2. LOCATION OF AQUIFERS IN SOUTHERN FLORIDA (15)

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SUPPLY (13) OF WATER SOURCE SHOWING COUNTY DADE OF SECTION CROSS GEOLOGIC FIGURE

(FI) ADDRESS DESCRIPTION OF PERSONS OF PERSONS

Immediately below the Biscayne Aquifer is an impermeable layer (aquiclude) made up of marl material and approximately 800 feet thick. (16)

The Floridian Aquifer lies below this layer and is divided into an upper and lower zone by an aquiclude. The upper zone contains fresh water and extends from about the 900-foot level to about the 1800-foot level. The aquiclude then extends to the 2550-foot level. The lower zone, also known as the Boulder Zone, contains large limestone caverns filled with salt water extending from 2550 feet to the 4,000-foot level. (16)

The early land promoters came to Miami in the early 1900s and began digging the extensive canal system that we have today in hopes of draining the Everglades for farming in the rich muck and peat soils. Fortunately, because of the tremendous amount of water involved, they were only partially successful in their attempts to drain the land. Today, the South Florida wetlands cover only about 50 percent of the original Everglades Basin which at one time had extended into the present cities of West Miami and Hialeah. (See Figure 4) Many natural ecological systems were disrupted or destroyed by drasticly lowering the water levels about six to seven feet. (15) (See Figure 5)

With the completion of the first canals in Dade County an unforeseen problem, known as salt water intrusion, began. Prior to this, the sea water seepage into the Biscayne Aquifer had been confined to a very narrow strip along the coast and along the

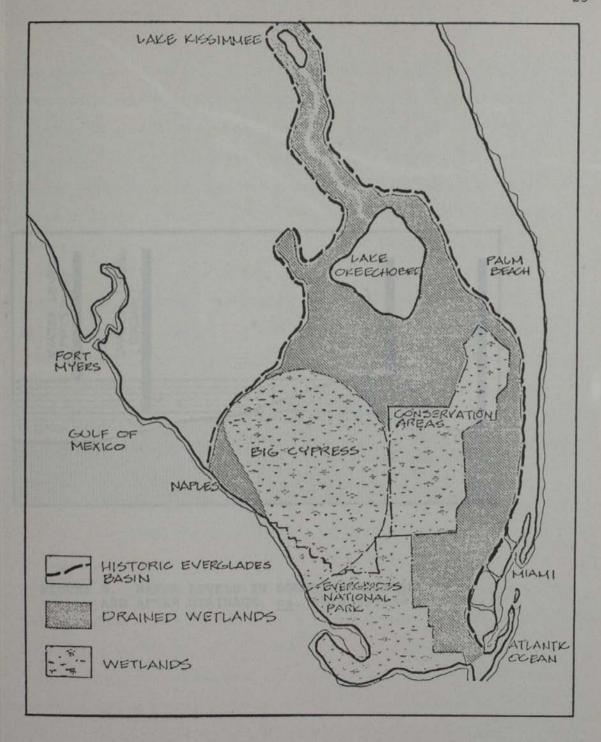


FIGURE 4. PAST AND PRESENT WETLANDS IN SOUTHERN FLORIDA SHOWING THAT THE EVERGLADES TODAY ENCOMPASS AN AREA ABOUT ONE-HALF ITS ORIGINAL SIZE (15)

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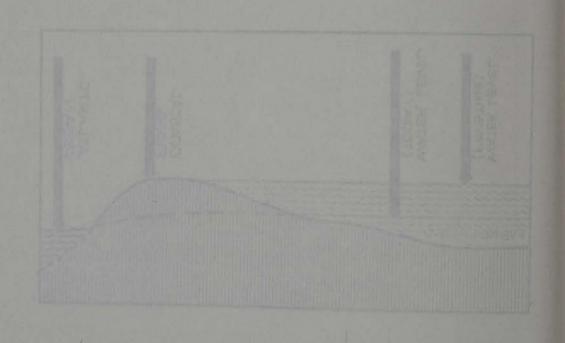
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natural river banks for a short distance inland. (13) The general lowering of water levels throughout the region significantly reduced the fresh water head pressure pushing against the sea. The canals also allowed salt water to move greater distances inland, especially during dry periods when little or no fresh water flow was occurring. The salt water then readily seeped through the porous limestone to the fresh water aquifer. (15)

Upon completion of the Miami Canal in 1913 the early settlers found their fresh water wells turning salty as the intrusion pushed inland. The city was forced to abandon their downtown wells and move their water treatment facility all the way out to the Hialeah-Miami Springs area for good well water. Even these well fields were threatened in the late 1930s and 1940s until a permanent salinity dam was built across the river at NW 36 Street.

Salt water intrusion in the county continued to move further inland until the construction of permanent salinity dams on all major canals in the 1950s by the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project. After these barriers were built the salt front slowly retreated a short distance and remains relatively stationary at the present time. (See Figure 6)

Salt water intrusion still remains a major threat to our fresh water resources in Dade County. (14) A minimum of a two and one-half foot ground water surface (fresh water head) above sea level is necessary to prevent sea water movement inland in Dade County. (15) During some drought periods and in years



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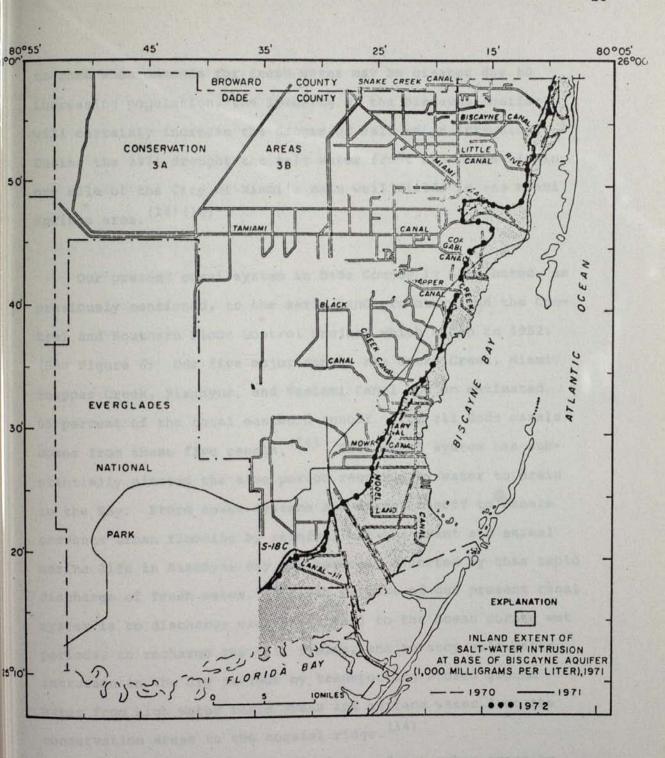


FIGURE 6. INLAND EXTENT OF SALT WATER INTRUSION, 1970, 1971, AND 1972 CALENDAR YEARS (14)

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to come when demands for fresh water may be greater due to increasing population, the lowering of the Biscayne Aquifer will certainly increase the danger of salt water intrusion.

During the 1971 drought the salt water front had moved within one mile of the City of Miami's main well fields in the Miami Springs area. (14) (16)

Our present canal system in Dade County is attributed, as previously mentioned, to the early land promoters and the Central and Southern Flood Control Project which began in 1952. (See Figure 6) Our five major canals are Snake Creek, Miami, Snapper Creek, Biscayne, and Tamiami Canal and an estimated 65 percent of the total eastward runoff from all Dade canals comes from these five canals. (14) This canal system has substantially altered the time period required by water to drain to the Bay. Storm sewer systems and direct runoff to canals prevents urban flooding by rainfall but the plant and animal marine life in Biscayne Bay are severely affected by this rapid discharge of fresh water. (15) The purpose of our present canal system is to discharge excess rainfall to the ocean during wet periods, to recharge the well fields, and to stop salt water intrusion in the dry periods by transporting stored ground water from high water table areas and surface water from the conservation areas to the coastal ridge. (14)

Unfortunately, the rapid draining of our urban areas by canals prevents valuable percolation of clean rainwater into

the ground for aquifer recharge. Canal water thus becomes a prime source of well field recharge. (15) However, all sorts of contamination from a variety of sources degrade the quality of our canal water; these include pesticides and fertilizer runoff from agricultural and residential areas, occasional substandard sewage treatment plant effluents, raw sewage discharge from boats and a variety of illegal discharges to our waterways. A recent study funded by the Environmental Protection Agency shows that street and road runoff to waterways by way of storm sewers can pollute as much as municipal sewage. Oil, asbestos from brake linings, nitrogen and phosphorus compounds, rubber from tires, lead from gasoline and zinc from oil, all run into the waterways.

The hydrologic cycle fluctuates in Dade County with the distinct wet and dry seasons that occur here. Most rainfall occurs in the summer month period from May to October and the dry season accounts for the rest of the year. Of the sixty inches of average rainfall per year about eighty percent is lost by transpiration from plants and evaporation. (15)

The Biscayne Aquifer is our chief source of ground water and the water table levels change with the wet and dry seasons. Underground, the water is constantly moving horizontally because it is not at the same levels everywhere. It flows a few feet a day here in its attempt to seek its own level. Ground water levels are commonly shown by contour lines on a map in-

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contraction of the property of the party of

dicating feet above sea level. (See Figure 7) Direction of flow is perpendicular to the contour lines and the closer the lines the more rapid the water movement. Differences between the average yearly high and low ground water levels are significant. (See Figure 8) Contours tend to be distorted from their natural pattern in areas where well fields are located. (15) The Miami well fields in the Hialeah area and the southwest section clearly demonstrate this. (See Figures 7 and 9)

Contamination of the Biscayne Aquifer from the leaching of our present dump sites in Dade County is one of the problems we face with our present solid waste system. These disposal sites fall far short of the criteria of a sanitary landfill and are simply dumps. The Main County Dump at 8831 NW 58 Street is due west of the main well fields in the Hialeah-Miami Springs area (see Figure 9) and groundwater flow from the dump is east toward the well fields.

The U.S. Geological Survey is currently conducting a study of groundwater contamination by leachates at the Main County Dump. Six test wells have been dug in the following locations at the site:

- 1. Middle of the existing dump.
- 2. Five hundred feet west of existing dump.
- One mile west of the existing dump.
- 4. Middle of the old fill site (east of existing dump).
- 5. Five hundred feet east of the old dump.
- 6. One-half mile east of the dump.

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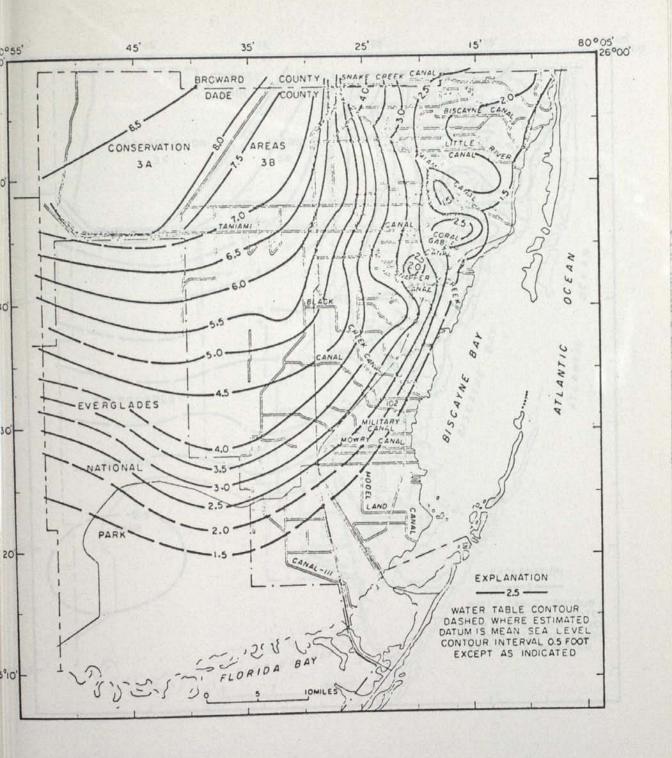


FIGURE 7. CONTOURS OF AVERAGE GROUND WATER LEVEL, 1960-1972 CALENDAR YEARS (16)

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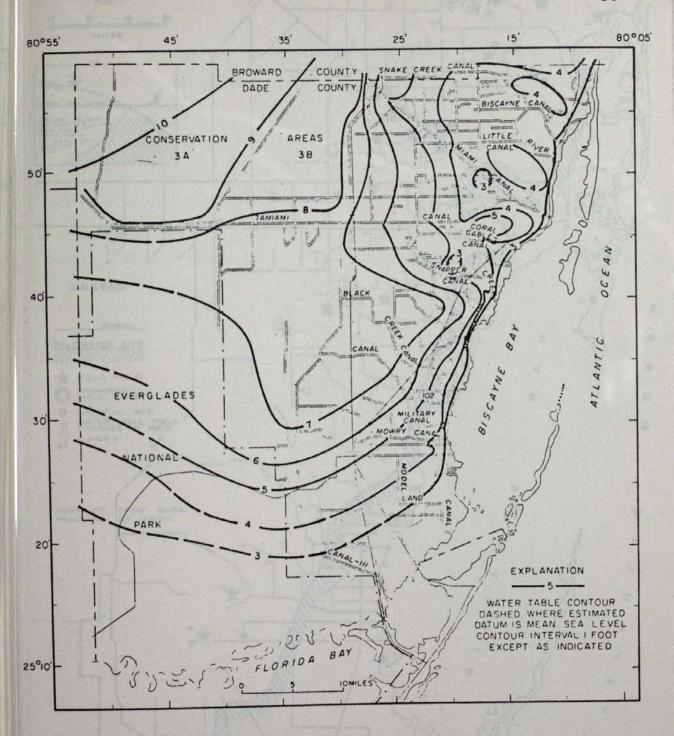


FIGURE 9. CONTOURS OF AVERAGE YEARLY HIGHEST GROUND WATER LEVEL, 1960-1972 CALENDAR YEARS (16)

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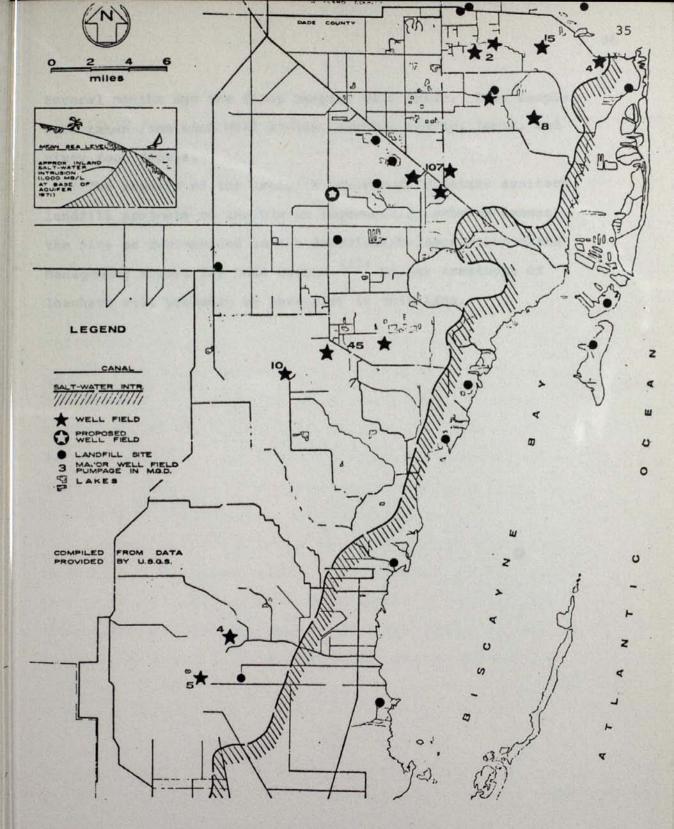
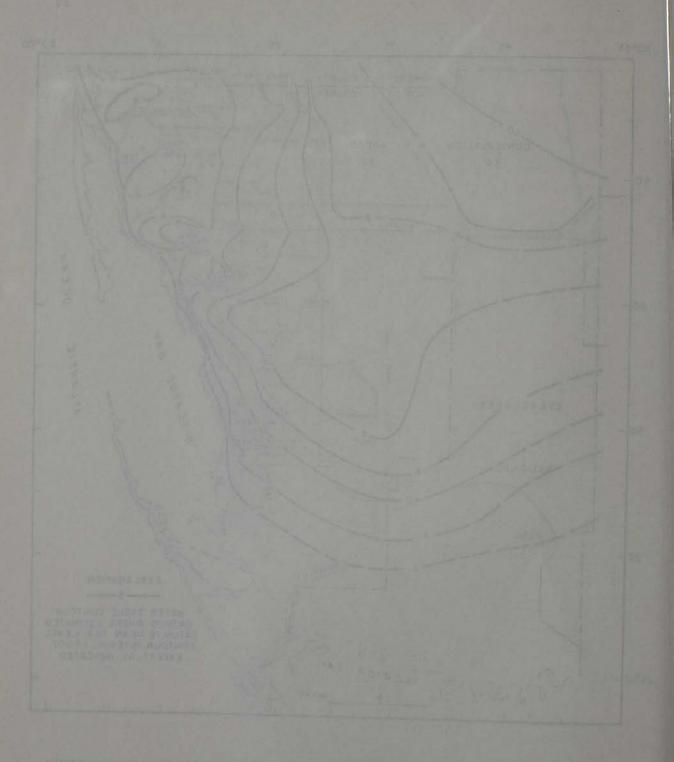


FIGURE 10. LOCATION OF WELL FIELDS (17)



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Several months ago the first samples were taken. Five samples were taken from each well at ten, twenty, thirty, forty, and sixty foot depths.

The results of the analysis could modify future sanitary landfill projects to include an impermeable membrane beneath the site as recommended in the Greenleaf/Telesca Solid Waste Management Report for Dade County. (17) Proper treatment of leachate will probably be necessary in this area.

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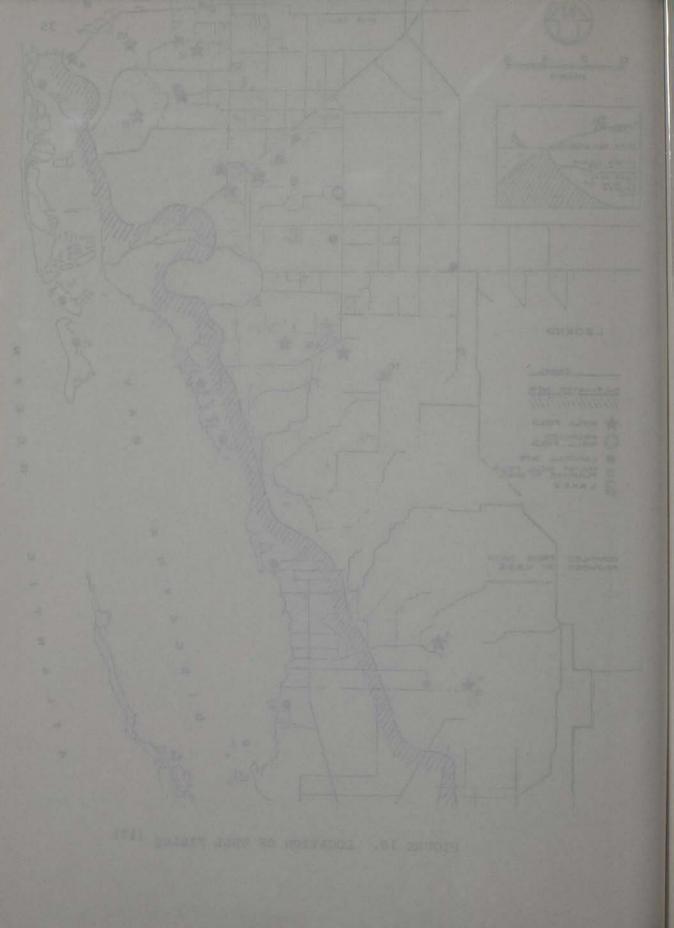
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profosingto in municipal solid waste. Tables V and VI, repre-

several sources, show that paper and organic matter are the pr

dominant components of the municipal solid vaste atteam.



#### III. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN DADE COUNTY

A. QUANTITIES AND KINDS OF SOLID WASTE: U.S.A.

The latest information on the sources, amounts and composition of solid wastes generated in the U.S.A. may be obtained from the report on solid waste reclamation prepared by a board of engineering consultants for the State of Wisconsin. (18) The data for that report was "compiled from a number of sources for the 1972 Yearbook of Science and the Future, of the Encyclopedia Brittanica, and is representative of the years 1965 to 1969."

The following tables (IV, V and VI) appeared in that report and offer a national view of the magnitude of the solid waste load upon the land environment of the United States.

The data in Table IV shows that paper, glass, and metals predominate in municipal solid waste. Tables V and VI, representing typical analysis of domestic wastes as compiled from several sources, show that paper and organic matter are the predominant components of the municipal solid waste stream.

development and the first countries were taken. The semples

Attended a resident of the organization of the sentence of the

#### TABLE IV

SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF SOLID WASTES GENERATED IN THE U.S.A.(18)

A. Total Solid Waste: all types (not including mining and agriculture).

30 pounds per capita per day (national average) 1,100 million tons per year

#### B. Municipal Solid Waste

3-4.5 pounds per capita per day (national average, 1965) 6-8 pounds per capita per day (some localities, 1968) 900 million pounds per day = 165 million tons per year

#### C. Industrial Wastes

13-14 pounds per capita per day (national average)
510 million tons per year

# D. Agricultural Wastes

2280 million tons per year

## E. Mining Wastes

1700 million tons per year

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preducting system in manipule to discuss Tables V and VI, representant dentiting system in dentities whereas and design of the companies and design of the manipule and displace and displa

TABLE V

# SOME COMPONENTS OF THE MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LOAD FROM VARIOUS SOURCES (18)

Material	Unit	s per Ye	ar	Aı	nual Ton	nage
Paper and paper products		L. L.			million	
Glass		2.00		14	million	
Metal, mostly junked autos	6	million		10	million	
Rubber (primarily auto tires	)			2.2	million	
Packaging wastes		-44		83	million	(1969)
a) glass containers	29	billion	(1967)	9	million	(1969)
b) metal containers	54	billion	(1967)	6.2	million	(1969)
c) plastic containers	600	million	(1967)		04 100	
d) paper containers					-	

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#### C. Industrial Wester

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#### E. Minery Wester.

1000 million tons per year

THE COMPOSITION OF DOMESTIC SOLID WASTE (18)

TABLE VI

Generation Rate and Waste Component	Information Sources							
	Santa Clara	Los Angeles	Louis- ville	Quad Cities N.J.	Univ. Purdue	23 Cities	Madison	
Waste Generation Rate	3.5 lb	s a serod	2.0 lb	2.7 lb	sion. s	lastica ngi	2.2 lb	
Pounds/person/day					n-20860			
Waste Component	Composition in Percent							
Paper	50	41	60	45	42	46	52	
Metals	8	6	9	9	8	9	7	
Glass	7.	8	10	6	6	9	15	
Plastics	1	2		2	1.	1	2	
Cloth, Leather, Rags, Rubber	4	2	a bree	5	2	4	4	
Food (Garbage)	12	6	18		12	17	10	
Wood	2	2	-	23	2	3.3	2	
Yard	9	21	DUE TOTAL		12	10	8	
Unclassified	7	12	3	10	15	1		
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

#### W. SETHER

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#### B. QUANTITIES AND KINDS OF SOLID WASTE: DADE COUNTY

One method used in calculating the composition of solid wastes is the output analysis "which involves hand-sorting the garbage and weighing each individual component." (19)

Wastes collected from homes, institutions and commercial concerns can be divided into two fractions: combustible and non-combustible. These two fractions combined are sometimes referred to as RUBBISH. The combustible fraction is composed of paper, cardboard, cartons, wood, boxes, excelsior, plastics, rags, clothing, bedding, leather, rubber, grass clippings, leaves, yard trimmings, and food wastes. The non-combustible fraction comprises metals, tin cans, foils, dirt, stones, bricks, ceramics, crockery, glass, and bottles.

TRASH is a general name sometimes given to the wastes collected from streets, sidewalks, alleys, and vacant lots.

TRASH is divided into two fractions: parkways and street refuse and bulky wastes. The parkways and street refuse consists of street sweepings, dirt, leaves, dirt collected in catch basins, the contents of litter receptacles, trees, plants, stumps, and floating debris from rivers and canals.

Bulky wastes is that fraction of TRASH which includes large auto parts, tires, stoves, refrigerators, and other appliances, discarded furniture, and crating materials.

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Table VII (20) presents the amounts of RUBBISH and TRASH in Dade County for the Year 1970 and the projected amounts for the years 1975 and 1980, for the 27 municipalities in the county but excluding the amounts collected by the latter in the unincorporated areas.

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TABLE VII

AMOUNTS OF RUBBISH AND TRASH IN DADE COUNTY IN 1970

AND PROJECTED AMOUNTS IN 1975 AND 1980 (20)

	197	0	197	5	1980	
AREA	RUBBISH	TRASH	RUBBISH	TRASH	RUBBISH	TRASH
Bal Harbor	1,068	760	1,243	897	1,439	1,05
Bal Harbor Is.	2,407	1,722	2,826	2,046	3,300	2,41
Biscayne Park	975	1,013	1,158	1,197	1,365	1,40
Coral Gables	14,747	15,850	16,581	17,854	18,624	20,07
El Portal	757	771	793	804	824	83
Florida City	1,762	1,914	2,050	2,232	2,372	2,58
Golden Beach	1,041	317	1,465	679	1,952	1,09
Hialeah	35,037	37,944	41,244	44,831	48,266	52,60
Hialeah Gardens	164	183	272	303	393	43
Homestead	4,714	5,100	5,689	6,163	6,793	7,36
Ind.Crk.Village	62	30	76	40	92	5
The state of the s	2	2	18	20	39	4
Islandia	160	130	233	194	313	26
Medley Miami	120,753	124,902	141,570	147,213	165,089	172,37
The second secon	46,589	32,477	54,078	38,049	62,511	44,32
Miami Beach Miami Shores	3,335	3,515	3,487	3,684	3,645	3,85
	4,869	4,953	5,535	5,657	6,279	6,44
Miami Springs	1,708	1,801	2,015	2,100	2,360	2,45
North Bay Village	12,315	12,968	14,280	15,076	16,498	17,44
North Miami	10,641	11,500	13,595	14,687	16,972	18,32
N. Miami Beach	4,254	4,664	5,123	5,600	6,113	6,66
Opa Locka	24	27	39	44	59	•
Pennsuco	4,058	4,393	4,697	5,071	5,416	5,83
South Miami	1,889	1,348	2,227	1,601	2,606	1,88
Surfside	1,124	1,252	2,279	2,539	3,620	4,03
Sweetwater	910	941	982	1,015	1,060	1,09
Virginia Gardens West Miami	1,952	2,049	2,141	2,264	2,348	2,49

# C. COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION, AND METHODS OF DISPOSAL

1. <u>Collection</u>. The Metropolitan Government of Dade County operates a system of garbage and trash collection which serves approximately 140,000 homes in the unincorporated areas of the county. (21)

The system in operation during Fiscal Year 1970-71 included 92 garbage collection trucks, 137 trash collection vehicles, and 768 employees, including those working at the disposal sites. At that time, the annual cost reported by the County Manager was \$9,140,000, not including a required reserve for October, November, and December 1971. (22)

At present, Dade County offers three types of services in its collection system to meet the needs of the residents in the unincorporated areas. Each homeowner pays \$52 yearly for this three-pronged waste collection system.

(a) The primary service is collection of residential garbage and trash by collection crews. Residents are required to place this refuse in 20 or 30-gallon garbage containers or in plastic bags. Weight of these containers is restricted to 50 lbs. or less. Branches or small trash are to be placed in bundles which are limited in length to 3 ft. and to 50 lbs. in weight. (23) These containers or bundles are placed at curbside by the residents and are picked up twice a week by collection

crews. Crews work four ten-hour days per week: Monday,
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. They work on an incentive
plan and are released from work upon completion of the
task assignment for the day.

This service in the waste collection program is designed to reduce manpower requirements for collection crews as well as to improve the appearance of residential areas by eliminating random dispersion of waste containers. To enforce compliance, the county has ordinances prohibiting residents from leaving trash cans at curbside on noncollection days. There are also special provisions for backyard pickup of residential refuse in cases where the resident is ill or infirm and unable to carry the containers to curbside himself or has no one who can do this for him or her.

(b) The second type of collection service is the "Neighborhood Garden Trash Transfer Station," where the residents themselves haul any trash except construction materials, loose paper, or automotive parts, to specified stations. There are no charges associated with this service, which is required in this part of the country because of the year-round growth of vegetation in private gardens. Prior to this service, garden trash piles along the roadsides in residential areas were common. Collection crews, using hydrocranes equipped with clamshell type

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buckets, patrolled county roads and removed the piles of garden trash. In doing so, they removed also small amounts of the underlying soil. The eventual result was a small pit into which careless people deposited cans and bottles. In addition, the pits were a hazard to the unwary person walking along the roads after dark. The "Neighborhood Garden Trash Transfer Station" service has eliminated these spots thereby improving the appearance of residential areas. This service has helped to reduce collection costs by reducing the collection system to 28 sites instead of stops at every home.

"Customized Collection" designed to handle bulky wastes.

This service is provided twice a year upon request of the residents for collection of bulky items which cannot be containerized or taken to trash stations. Examples of bulky items are discarded furniture, appliances, and major tree cutbacks. Each collection is limited to 25 cubic yards (one truck load). There is a charge of \$1.60 per cubic yard for trash in excess of the authorized limit per collection. Only two such collections per year are allowed without an extra charge. The minimum charge for any additional collections is \$8.00 for each 5 cubic yards collected. (23) Commercial establishments are not served and must engage private contractors for collecting

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their wastes; the unincorporated areas of the county provide their own services.

- Transportation. Waste collected in the Dade County area is 2. taken to three main locations: the Northeast Incinerator located at 18701 N.E. 6th Avenue; the 20th Street Incinerator, owned by the City of Miami and located just north of the Civic Center; and a large dump, euphemistically called "the N.W. 58th Street sanitary landfill." (24) In addition to the above locations, several other land disposal sites are being used but these are scheduled for deactivation soon. Vehicles used include 20-yard packer trucks, 25-yard packer trucks, 32-yard trash trucks, 40-yard roll offs, and 65-yard transfer trailers. (25) Route mileage varies from 63 to 112 miles per day's collections and is related directly to the distance from "landfill" sites and increased trips on Monday and Tuesday because of the greater number of loads to be transported. (21)
- 3. <u>Disposal</u>. At the time that the Greenleaf/Telesca report was prepared, there were four incinerators and twenty land disposal sites in Dade County. (20) Two of the incinerators have been shut down through court action. One of these, the Coral Gables Incinerator, might be modified and used to dispose of waste sometime in the future, but the other, the Coconut Grove Incinerator, is not expected to be reopened due to public

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The third cya of public verse ordering as the first water of the service as provided to the seas of the service as provided to the seas of the sequent of the seasons for contract of the seasons and the seasons for the seasons and the seasons are seasons and the seasons are seasons and called the seasons and called the seasons and called the seasons and called the seasons as the seasons and the seasons are the seasons are the seasons and are the seasons are the seasons and the seasons are the seasons a

pressure. A third incinerator located at N.W. 20th Street and 12th Avenue is presently owned by the City of Miami, but is due to be turned over to Dade County soon. It is scheduled to be deactivated by April 1975. (26) The fourth incinerator, the Northeast Incinerator, is a new facility which was used by the Environmental Protection Agency in drawing up their requirements for particulate emission because of its clean operating characteristics. Curiously, it does not meet less stringent state and Dade County requirements due to the use of a different test procedure. (20)

The main receiver of solid waste is the N.W. 58th Street land disposal site. Trucks from Dade County, incorporated municipalities and private hauling firms bring waste to this site. While aware of the necessary requirements for compaction and daily cover in a landfill, county administrators point to the lack of suitable cover materials, personnel shortages, equipment breakdowns and a pitfire which lasted approximately three months, as reasons for the failure to maintain the landfill program on schedule. (24) Greenleaf/Telesca points out that all of the land disposal sites in the county are in violation of state and federal regulations concerning the disposal of refuse. At the time their report was written, the major concern with county officials was control of fires as indicated by the fact that the operation of dumps and landfills were under the administration of the fire department.

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At least partially as a result of the Greenleaf/Telesca report, several steps have been taken to deal with the solid waste disposal problem. The United States Geological Society has been asked to install water-quality monitoring wells around the N.W. 58th Street site. A \$50 million bond issue has been approved for waste disposal, the City of Miami has agreed to turn over the N.W. 20th Street site to the county, and requests for proposal have been sent to 60 different firms in hopes of obtaining a system suitable for dealing with the disposal of solid waste.

4. Wastewater Sludge. Sludge is a mixture of water and solids.

The solids are those originally present in the wastewater and/or those generated during the treatment of the wastewater. Sludge may contain from 95 to 99 percent, by weight, of water but it may be dewatered to reduce the water content to 60-80 percent by weight. Further processing and heating may yield a "cake" with varying degrees of moisture.

Dewatered or dry sludge requires final disposal and the following methods are the most commonly used for this purpose:

Disposal in the ocean

Application to land surface

Landfilling

Subsurface disposal

Incineration

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Many of the environmental problems which can arise from sludge disposal are similar to those caused by the discharge of untreated wastewater to the environment. (27)

At present, the wastewater treatment plants in Dade County use sludge drying beds to dry the sludge produced. The continuous buildup of sludge on the drying beds eventually requires its removal and develops into a solid waste problem. (28)

In Dade County, the final disposal of wastewater sludge is accomplished by spreading it on the land. (27) This requires collecting and transporting the sludge from the various treatment plants and septic tanks in the county to Virginia Key. Future plans, however, include the development of three wastewater management districts which will consolidate smaller plants into three large facilities by 1975 as indicated in Figure 11. By the year 2000, a fourth district will be developed in the county, and wastewater treatment will be carried in four large plants as indicated in Figure 12. (29) The 1975 plan includes transporting, via a pipeline, the sludge from the North District to the Central District where it will be used for landfilling in Virginia Key.

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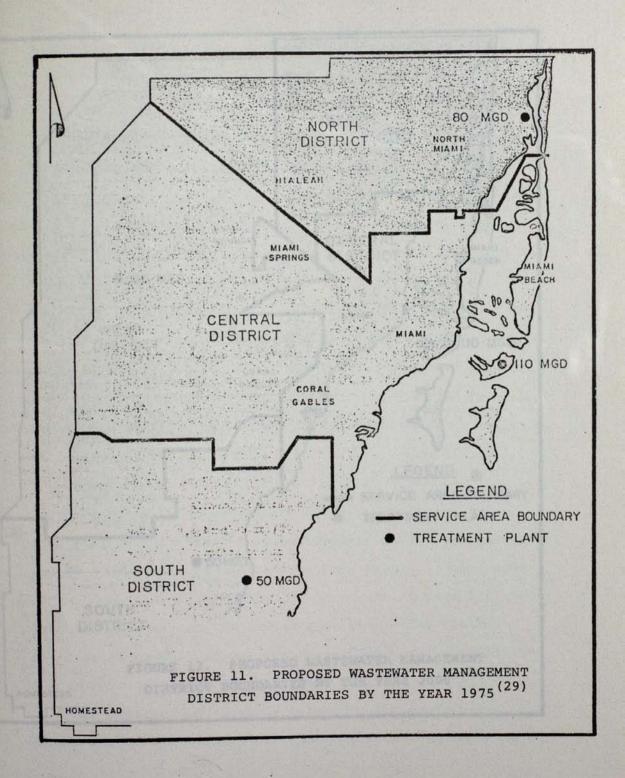
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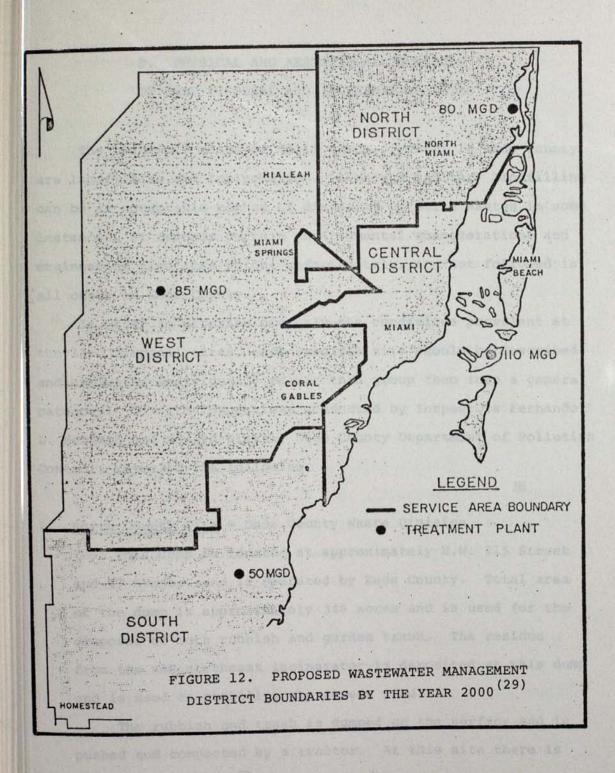
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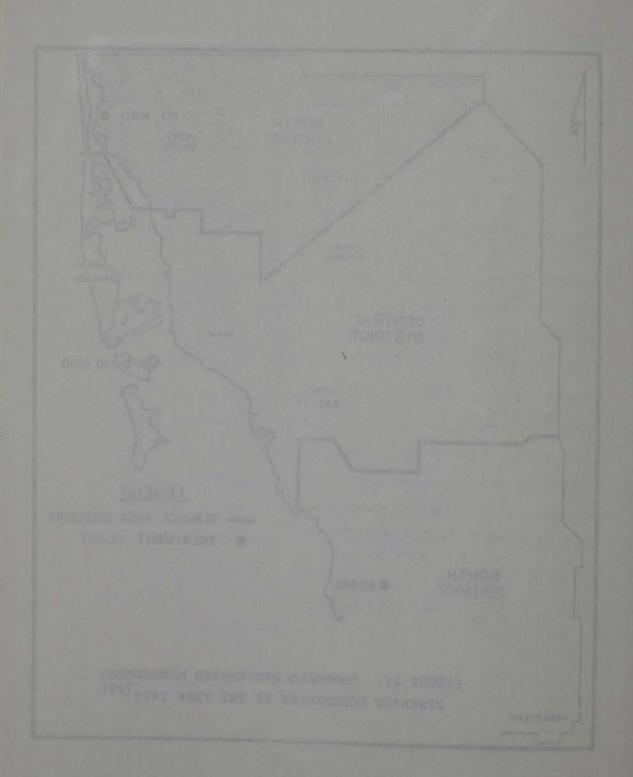


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# D. PHYSICAL AND AESTHETICAL CONDITION OF LAND DISPOSAL AND INCINERATION SITES

The principal means of solid waste disposal in Dade County are landfilling and incineration. Although sanitary landfilling can be an acceptable method of disposing of solid wastes in some instances, it demands certain environmental considerations and engineering practices which, unfortunately, are not followed in all cases in Dade County.

In order to describe properly the conditions prevalent at the land disposal sites, each specific site should be described and evaluated individually rather than group them into a general category. On-site inspections conducted by Inspectors Fernando L. Bestard and Edward Sierra, Dade County Department of Pollution Control, revealed the following:

## 1. North County Site - Dade County Waste Division

This dump is located at approximately N.W. 215 Street and 47 Avenue, and is operated by Dade County. Total area of the dump is approximately 340 acres and is used for the disposal of both rubbish and garden trash. The residue from the new northeast incinerator is deposited at this dump and is used to stabilize the access road.

The rubbish and trash is dumped on the surface and is pushed and compacted by a tractor. At this site there is

little earth cover available; thus rodents and odor are a continuous nuisance. This dump is also notorious for fires due to the lack of cover material.

2. Main County Site - Dade County Waste Division

This dump is located at N.W. 58 Street and 87 Avenue, and is operated by Dade County. The dump comprises some 640 acres, and is thus the largest county disposal site.

The dump handles rubbish and trash which is pushed and compacted by a tractor. Although this is supposed to be a sanitary landfill, the operation is very unsatisfactory due to poor compaction, little use of the available cover material and no control of the leachates. Rodents and odor are a severe problem along with fires which have been known to burn for months at a time.

3. South County Site - Dade County Waste Division

This dump is located at S.W. 240 Street and 87 Avenue, and is less than one mile from Biscayne Bay. Operated by Dade County, the dump comprises 140 acres and accepts both rubbish and trash as well as oversized waste.

Cover material is hauled in by trucks and the existing three or five feet of muck covering the dump is excavated and stockpiled. This places the excavation bottom below the water table which can lead to water pollution. Here, too, fires have been known to burn for weeks at a time.

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#### 4. North Miami Beach (Interama Dump)

This dump is now completely closed down and is being covered and leveled.

#### 5. Miami Beach Site - City of Miami Beach

Located at N.E. 207 Street and 16 Avenue, this is probably the best operated land disposal operation in Dade County. The site accepts garden trash and oversized waste. The wastes are placed and compacted by bulldozer in excavated trenches which are approximately 15 feet wide by 6 feet deep. Cover material is plowed and compacted on the surface daily. Needless to say, there is no odor nor fire situation at this site.

## 6. Surfside Dump - Town of Surfside

Located at N.W. 215 Street and 47 Avenue, it occupies approximately 46 acres and handles rubbish and garden trash. Refuse is dumped into open trenches and compacted as dumping progresses to an elevation of twenty feet. The refuse is then covered with earth. This dump is set to be phased out soon due to lack of space; however, a date has not been set. This dump also suffers from odors and rodents.

## 7. City of Miami at Virginia Key - City of Miami

This site is located on Virginia Key and accommodates incinerator residue and garden trash. The refuse is pushed and compacted by bulldozer. Because the material disposed of includes incinerator residue, this dump has a tendency to ignite and fires are frequent. At this dump, due to the

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frequency of fires, smoke and odors are the major offenders.

#### 8. Homestead and Florida City Dump

Located at approximately S.W. 344 Street and 162 Avenue, this is one of the worst, if not the worst, dump in Dade County. The dump is completely overused, handles all types of wastes and is continually on fire. This dump is susceptible to fires, smoke, rodents and odors.

#### . Hialeah Dump - City of Hialeah (Private)

This dump, located at approximately N.W. 107 Avenue and 138 Street, while owned by the City of Hialeah in an old rock quarry, is operated by a private contractor for a fee. The dump disposes of garden trash and oversized wastes. The waste is pushed and compacted by tractor into trenches, with the bottom below the water level, and refilled by excavation with little or no cover. Odors and rodents are common.

#### United Sanitation Services, Inc.

10.

Located at N.W. 95 Avenue and 103 Street, Medley, and operated by one of the largest commercial sanitation firms in the country. Wastes are stockpiled and placed into open trenches. Although the trenches are covered twice daily, there is no control of leachates which, most likely, contaminate the Biscayne Aquifer due to the high water table.

#### 11. Marks Brothers (Private)

Located at N.W. 110 Avenue and N.W. 17 Street, this site accepts only garden trash and demolition material. The site is an active limerock quarry with rock being mined from

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one end of the site and refuse being used for backfill at the other. The resultant lake from the rock excavation is 30-40 feet deep and, therefore, the wastes are deposited into the aquifer.

12. Haulover Beach - Department of Parks and Recreation

This small site on Haulover Beach is used to dispose of cuttings and clippings from park maintenance operations.

Land cover is scarce and rodent and odor problems are existent.

#### 13. Minton's Site

Located in Opa Locka on N.W. 37 Avenue and N.W. 122

Street, this private site accepts non-putrescible and oversize wastes. The wastes are dumped into a lake of a depth
of approximately 40-45 feet. The main pollutant problem with
this lake is its direct connection to the Opa Locka canal
system and possible water pollution problems.

14. Trash Transfer Stations - Dade County Waste Division

To make this summary complete it should include the trash transfer stations which are now at 29 locations in Dade County. Trash and oversized wastes are deposited here by citizens and then picked up by Dade County Waste Department and taken either to the incinerator or to one of the dumps. It was impossible to visit each transfer station; however, an inspection of 12 of these sites revealed conditions to be typical. The stations are unsightly, heavily inhabitated by rodents and insects, create offensive odors and are very

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Located at p.12, 130 Ayande and H. W. IT Street, this atta atta accepts only queden ucts and distribute nearly that the second to a street with took being when from

prone to fires.

In general, we can come to the following conclusions pertaining to the land disposal sites in Dade County:

- Sites do not meet the acceptable standards of a sanitary landfill.
- Wastes are in direct contact with the ground waters of Dade County.
- Rodents, insects and odors are a persistent menace in many of the sites.
- 4. Fires are predominant at most sites, thereby creating another problem: air pollution.

#### 15. Northeast Incinerator

This is the only modern incinerator in Dade County; it was placed in operation in 1970 and complies fully with present particulate emission standards. Due to test procedures, the incinerator does not meet state or local codes.

## 16. N.W. 20th Street Incinerator

Closed due to unsatisfactory exhaust emissions.

## 17. Coconut Grove Incinerator

Now under court injunction not to operate. Due to its location, all attempts to upgrade and operate this plant have brought litigation and strife.

## 18. Coral Gables Incinerator

Closed due to unsatisfactory exhaust emissions and local public reaction.

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#### E. AGENCIES INVOLVED IN SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

The following is a summary of the agencies involved in the disposal of solid wastes according to the methods used in such disposal. (30)

#### 1. GARBAGE FEEDING TO HOGS

- A. Permit from the DADE COUNTY ZONING DEPARTMENT where the feeding is going to be done.
- B. A feeding permit shall be obtained from the FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMERS SERVICE.
- C. Approval is granted by the DADE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
- D. Surveillance and Inspection is done by DADE COUNTY
  DEPARTMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL.

#### 2. SANITARY LANDFILLS

- A. Permit from the DADE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING DEPART-MENT where the landfill operations are going to take place.
- B. Counties and mosquito control districts participating in the State anthropod control program shall comply with CHAPTER 388, FLORIDA STATUTES, and all applicable provisions of this chapter.

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- C. Counties, municipalities, individuals, corporations and organizations not subject to CHAPTER 388, FLORIDA STATUTES, shall submit to the local health department an operational work plan including a map showing the location of the proposed site.
- D. Following receipt of the proposed operational work plan from the local health department, the DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, DIVISION OF HEALTH, will review the plans and make necessary field investigations before approval or disapproval of the proposal. Approval from the DIVISION OF HEALTH must be received before operations are initiated.
- E. DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL makes the necessary surveillance and inspections.
- F. DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS is responsible for the maintenance of county operated landfills.

## 3. INCINERATORS

- A. Permit from the DADE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING DEPART-MENT for the site location.
- B. Application should be obtained from the DADE COUNTY

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DEPARTMENT OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL and submitted to them.

- C. Statement that engineering drawings have been approved by the governing body (city commissioners).
- D. Surveillance and inspection is done by DADE COUNTY
  DEPARTMENT OF AIR AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL.

#### 4. COMPOSTING

- A. Permit from the DADE COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING DEPART-MENT for site location.
- B. Plans and accompanying documents shall be submitted to the DIVISION OF HEALTH through the DADE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT for review and consideration of approval.
- C. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS have to give approval prior to submittal to the local HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
- D. Inspection and surveillance should be done by DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL.

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## 5. PATHOLOGICAL WASTES

A. Disposal shall be by incineration or other method approved by the DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL.

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#### F. COSTS OF DISPOSAL AND METHODS OF FINANCING

Within Dade County, 27 incorporated communities comprise about 32% of its area. These 27 communities also account for 58% of the resident population and 84% of the tourist population. Of the 27 municipalities, 21 have fewer than 15,000 population. Economic considerations indicate that it is not economically feasible for small communities to provide independent solid waste disposal services. However, of the 27 communities, 22 do presently provide independent solid waste collection service and 5 provide and operate their own disposal facilities within their corporate boundaries. The Dade County Waste Division presently provides collection and disposal services for only one of the incorporated areas and the total unincorporated community, as well as either partial or complete disposal services for 15 of the remaining municipalities. Two communities contract with private contractors for collection and disposal and two remote communities do not have public services.

The budget history for fiscal year 1960-61 thru fiscal year 1970-71 was obtained from the county's finance office, and refuse tonnages from the Waste Division records to develop collection and disposal costs. A summary of these annual costs is shown in Table VIII. The budget figures do not include fringe benefit costs in their personnel service extensions.

#### PATROLOGICAL WARREST

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TABLE VIII

## BUDGET HISTORY FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL IN DADE COUNTY, 1960-1971

	1940-41	1741-42	1942-43	1963-64	1764-65	1945-44	1964-47	1947-68	1768-69	1949-70	1970-71
IEVENUE		\$2,734,842	\$3,089,000	12,964,169	\$3,271,000	53, 499, 000	\$3,411,115	\$4,380,500	\$4,479,000	55, 846, 200	\$7,477.076
Weste Collection Fors Other Income	12,452,432	52,730,042		121,690	162,000		127,000	420,000 M 800,500	\$4,968,500	715, 156 56, 561, 356	58, 246, 088
TOTAL Revenue	52,452,632	\$2,736,842	\$3,089,000	\$3,095,839	\$3,373,000	\$3,499,000	\$3,738,115	14,800,500	34, 700, 300	30, 301, 330	30,1-0,000
EXPENDITURES  A) Administration  1) Researd Services  2) Contractual Services  3) Commofil'es  4) Fixed and Sundry  3) Capital Outlay	\$ 63,523 66,360 1,034 5,184 1,158	5 78, 675 30, 997 964 40, 553 1, 241	\$ 89,882 37,903 1,542 54,995 179	\$ 105,924 41,221 1,475 48,824 480	\$ 95,873 21,352 1,057 47,054 870	\$ 104,447 21,210 2,067 51,302 2,003	\$ 131,250 28,527 1,700 \$1,650 2,777	\$ 128,000 34,527 2,800 51,772	\$ 144,500 57,815 2,511 80,074 608	\$ 159,124 57,748 2,030 67,040 4,369	\$ 171, 464 53, 515 3, 300 106, 329
Total	\$ 137,259	\$ 152,252	\$ 184,521	\$ 197,926	\$ 164,106	\$ 181,029	5 216,204	\$ 217,099	\$ 287,508	5 290,311	5 334,408
5) Otepael (Lendfill) 1) Personal Services 2) Contractual Services 3) Contractual Services 4) Fixed and Sundry 5) Capital Outlay	\$ 37,569 29,152 4,246 2,028 112	\$ 36,608 43,828 9,151	\$ 40,888 46,637 9,001 1,648 3,530	\$ 40,784 45,000 10,000 2,533 28,000	\$ 42,998 52,849 6,327 2,372 126,105	\$ 43,460 72,923 2,509 2,576 27,589	\$ 46,500 58,800 8,000 3,440 39,100	\$ 55,500 67,080 2,000 3,999	\$ 92,220 122,619 5,261 5,755 25,141	\$ 131,957 189,036 4,061 7,381 14,508	\$ 170,690 126,053 12,360 7,306 84,116
Total	\$ 80,107	\$ 89,787	\$ 101,704	\$ 127,317	\$ 230,681	\$ 149,057	\$ 155,840	\$ 130,579	\$ 250,996	5 346,943 356,478	\$ 400,550
Tors Collected & Disposed			209,507 49,593	273,365	223,299 48,645	300,501 47,631	293,452 78,484	90, 634	122, 198	181,211	204,040
Total Tora Disposed  Cast For Ton	00230		259,100 10.39	319,516 50.40	341,744 \$0.67	348, 132 50.43	371,936 \$0.42	427, 332 50.31	505, 083 10.50	567,689 50.61	\$3,040 \$3,66
Garbage Collection  8) Personal Services  2) Contractual Services  3) Commodities  4) Fiscal and Sundy -  9) Capital Outlay  a) Daib Service  Tatal  Tens Collected  Callection Cost Per Ton	51, 561, 433 262, 087 23, 873 135, 287 14, 342 139, 049	\$1,562,748 262,386 22,293 114,540 74,566 2*,217	\$1,398,671 247,447 22,354 122,004 59,577 72,774	\$1,549,779 294,610 24,300 130,021 120,525	\$1,554,044 278,873 18,690 143,550 180,428	\$1,720,552 329,727 17,340 148,571 169,773	\$1,728,594 295,560 19,520 201,898 158,200	\$2,120,265 326,060 16,020 170,292 251,720	\$2,849,438 \$40,650 18,800 224,215 411,419	\$3,666,323 624,166 25,493 286,299 250,161	\$4,319,822 298,977 29,024 377,251 266,311
	\$2,136,071	\$2,066,750	\$1,922,827 122,816 \$15.66	\$2,129,235 132,002 \$16.13	\$2,175,585 142,241 \$15.30	\$2,385,963 156,551 \$15.24	\$2,403,772 155,643 \$15.44	\$2,821,000 165,967 \$17.38	\$4,044,525 189,400 \$21.33	54, 652, 432 165, 693 526 13	\$5,341,385 192,000 \$27,82
0) Trach Collection 1) Parsonal Services 2) Contractual Services 3) Commodities 4) Fixed and Sundry 5) Capital Outlay Taref Tore Collected	\$ 88,682 81,690 224 2,669 57,670 \$ 230,955	1,007	\$ 333, 135 158, 003 558 11, 877 105, 888 \$ 607, 481	\$ 350,416 214,000 2,000 26,200 206,495 \$ 801,111 141,363	\$ 327,375 137,469 1,133 25,320 269,427 \$ 760,724 151,058	\$ 362,600 199,856 642 27,949 271,453 \$ 862,500 143,950 35,99	\$ 520,102 237,000 1,500 46,850 230,783 \$1,036,235 137,809 \$7,52	361,050	\$ 825,942 394,592 1,365 70,441 76,034 183,285 \$7,47	\$1,067,354 441,642 3,213 88,472 161,815 \$1,762,496 200,785 58,78	\$1,328,426 390,240 7,000 100,35 227, 30 52,338,356 212,300 59,21
Callection Cost Fer Ton			\$7.03	\$5.67	\$5.04	B.17					
1) Inciperation 1) Farsonal Services 2) Confractual Services 3) Commodifies 4) Fixed and Sundry 5) Copital Outlay 4) Debt Service							\$ 377,983	\$ 137,500	-	5, 378 273, 965	\$ 164,264 43,86 21,84 12,89 49,20 284,50
Tatel Tone Incinerated Cost Fer Ton							\$ 577,983	\$ 137,500	\$ 287,049	\$ 340,185	\$ 576,574 49,990 \$11,53
F) Model Ciries 1) Personal Services 2) Contractual Services 3) Commodities 4) Fixed and Sundry											\$ 55,47 21,00 15,30 10,10 \$ 102,10
MASTE DIVISION TOTAL TOTAL TONS (Unincorporated) TOTAL COST FEE TON	\$2,567,39	2 12,623.09	6 52,818,532 209,507 \$13,45	3 53,255,58° 273,365 \$11,91	53,333,066 293,299 \$11,34	\$3,578,549 300,501 \$11,91	34,390,03- 293,452 314,96	334, 678 314.27	\$6,238,421 372,685 \$16.73	57,592,367 386,478 519,45	\$8,813,65 404,000 \$21,82

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- Residential Units: For garbage and trash collection and disposal, \$52 annually.
- Commercial Establishments: \$40 annually for 2 garbage cans. All additional waste collection and disposal services paid at the rate of \$1.60 per loose cu. yd. plus \$0.20 for each additional garbage can.

The following range for county disposal fees are charged for the disposal of waste matter listed below brought to the countyoperated disposal sites and incinerators:

1. Equine or bovine carcasses, each \$8.00 to nonflammable liquids, per 100 gallons \$1.00.

There are several keys of obtaining the necessary firenoist

2. Offal waste \$4.00/ton to minimum charge for disposal at \$2.50/ton.

Operating costs per ton for the various types of facilities used in the disposal of solid wastes are as follows:

## Rubbish - Courty wide bests to weeken the three and romantat

Incinerator or Processing	\$5.00
Milled Sanitary Landfill	3.10
Sanitary Landfill	3.30
Milling and Modified Landfill	2.50

#### ANDRES SERVICES FOR SOME WEST BELLEVILLE OF UNITS CHAPTER THOUGH

Trash

Milled Landfill \$2.00
Landfill 1.00

A study conducted by Greenleaf/Telesca shows that on a countywide program, the annual cost of solid waste processing would increase as follows:

	Rubbish	Trash		
1972	\$3.68/ton	\$1.00/ton		
1990	9.08/ton	2.93/ton		

The 1973-74 sanitation budget for each of the municipalities in Dade County is shown on Table IX.

There are several ways of obtaining the necessary financial assistance to aid in implementing a countywide solid waste program. It has been estimated that no major municipality within Dade County is capable of providing for its solid waste disposal within its own boundaries except for a limited period of time. It has also been suggested that a carefully coordinated countywide plan is needed to provide for the long range solid waste disposal on a countywide basis to prevent further environmental degradation. An overall county agency can avail itself of general county credit in financing at a substantial savings in interest rates over those required by revenue as other special financing procedures.

TABLE IX

TOTAL AND SANITATION BUDGET FOR DADE COUNTY

GOVERNMENT AND MUNICIPALITIES, 1973-1974 (4)

	E COUNTY GOVERNMENT ND MUNICIPALITIES	TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR 1973-1974	SANITATION BUDGET FOR 1973-1974
1.	Bay Harbour Village	655,196.87	118,220
2.	Bay Harbor Islands	Not Available	Not Avail.
3.	Biscayne Park	297,537	137,923
4.	Coral Gables	16,846,721	2,117,408
5.	El Portal Village	2,083,525	112,100
6.	Florida City	625,788	45,000
7.	Golden Beach	227,795	28,000
8.	Hialeah	19,022,336	1,972,440
9.	Hialeah Gardens	283,314	130,410
10.	Homestead	295,219	313,379
11.	Indian Creek Village	210,841	27,000
12.	Islandia	12,000	0
13.	Medley	484,000	0
14.	Miami	68,714,516	8,385,498
15.	Miami Beach	38,790,192	3,162,097
16.	Miami Shores	1,496,000	249,496
17.	Miami Springs	2,236,218	288,951
18.	North Bay Village	1,095,106	94,000
19.	North Miami	14,000,000	877,404
20.	North Miami Beach	6,549,419	585,600
21.	Pennsuco	Not Available	Not Avail.
22.	Opa Locka	3,728,260	280,511
23.	Sweetwater	802,690	0
24.	South Miami	1,987,481	344,138
25.	Surfside	2,083,525	112,100
26.	Virginia Gardens	220,337	22,680
27.	West Miami	832,385	95,707
28.	Dade County	173,000,000	9,885,499

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The Federal Solid Waste Disposal Act under Title II of
Public Law 89-272, signed by the President on October 20, 1965,
assumed new major responsibilities for the control and management of solid wastes and directed the Secretary of Health,
Education and Welfare to initiate, encourage, and support a
national program aimed at discovering and evaluating other
methods of coping with solid waste problems. One of the major
responsibilities granted to the Secretary was "to provide training, financial and technical assistance to local and state
agencies so that they can survey their needs in the solid waste
area and plan for the development and staffing of programs capable of meeting those needs now and in the years to come." Also,
"encourage and support projects that may demonstrate new and improved methods of solid waste collection, handling and disposal."

In order to carry out these responsibilities, the Environmental Protection Agency was created. This agency has made grants and given other assistance to reduce the financial burden which must eventually be borne by the taxpayer. Some of the assistance programs are as follows:

Resource Recovery Grants: For the purpose of attracting the interests in the recovery of potentially valuable materials and energy.

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Municipal Assistance in Financing: To minimize the capital expenditures by the county in absorbing the outstanding bond financing by the municipalities.

<u>Private Sources of Financing</u>: For the purpose of promoting specialized types of refuse disposal.

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### G. SECONDARY MATERIALS INDUSTRIES (RECYCLING)

- 1. General. Salvaging and recycling wasted materials are methods of reducing solid wastes and of conserving natural resources. Although it is possible to examine and sort the wastes of a community, most cities hesitate to venture into salvaging. Many factors, such as economic and institutional constraints, prejudices, limited demand, and unfavorable purchasing policies, hamper salvaging. Moreover, since the costs of collection and transportation of municipal solid wastes are high the trend in urban areas has been towards the "one-can system"---where all wastes are mixed in one can. Salvaging demands the separation of the wastes and this is a complicated and expensive operation.
- 2. Salvaging and recycling in Dade County. Paper and paper products are some of the wastes that are salvaged in Dade County. Their market value, however, fluctuates more than for any other salvaged material and large amounts of waste paper are either incinerated or buried with other refuse.

Florida Processing Company reclaims some bones, offal, and other animal matter. A portion of scrap metals, including those in discarded automobiles, are recovered by scrap processors. Some reclamation of energy is realized through steam and heat generation at the 20th Street incinerator which supplies steam to Jackson Memorial Hospital.

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 Recycling Centers in Dade County. Table X presents some of the active recycling centers and collection stations in Dade County. THE PERSON NAMED AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY.

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# TABLE X

### RECYCLING CENTERS AND COLLECTION STATIONS

### IN DADE COUNTY

1. Recycling Centers	Materials Processed or Accepted
ABC Scrap Metals Co. 3511 N.W. N. River Dr., Miami	ferrous & non-ferrous metals
AIMCO Iron & Metal Co. 3338 N.W. N. River Dr., Miami	ferrous & non-ferrous metals
Continental Can Company 3400 N.W. 110th St., Miami	aluminum, copper, brass
Reynolds Aluminum Co. 4450 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Miami	aluminum cans
Robert Russell Metal 5761 N.W. 37th Avenue, Miami	aluminum cans
Scrap Metal Processing Co. 13100 Cairo Lane, Miami	ferrous and non-ferrous metals
Biscayne Paper Co. 5646 N.W. 35th Ct., Miami	paper
Durbin Paper Stock Co. 5420 N.W. 37th Avenue, Miami	paper
Miami Waste Paper Co. 2120 N.W. 14th Avenue, Miami	paper
Simco Waste Paper Simkins Road, Miami	paper

# 2. Collection Stations

Central Shopping Center	newspaper,	glass,	aluminum
Northside Shopping Center		"	
Red Bird Shopping Center	and the respect		
Stephens Market Westchester Shopping Center		"	
University of Miami (Levante Avenue)	personal tab	t none	er the un

Florida International University-newspaper newspaper only (107th St. Entrances)

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IV. DEVELOPMENT OF A SOLID WASTE POLICY FOR DADE COUNTY

### A. THE GREENLEAF/TELESCA REPORT

The firm of Greenleaf/Telesca was retained in 1963 as a consultant to report on solid waste disposal in Dade County. In 1971, at the request of the Board of County Commissioners, this consulting firm was authorized to update their 1963 report as an element of the Metropolitan Dade County General Land Use Master Plan. In approaching the problem, the firm began with an in-depth study of present conditions and practices and considered the projected growth and development of the metropolitan area.

The "Engineering and Economic Report on Solid Waste Collection and Disposal for Metropolitan Dade County," commonly referred to as "The Greenleaf/Telesca Report," (20) (17) was submitted to the County in May 1972. The thrust of the report is on an immediate program using proven processes and equipment with the suggestion that an evaluation of a number of new concepts and items for demonstration projects could be realized. In the immediate program, the report recommended the establishment of a county-wide agency to manage solid wastes. The Board of County Commissioners approved the report in its meeting of April 6, 1973.

The Greenleaf/Telesca report noted that none of the munic-

ipalities within the County had undeveloped areas that could be used for land disposal of solid wastes for an extended period of time. Since land is available in the unincorporated areas of the county, a metropolitan agency could provide the needed disposal areas. In addition, certain economic advantages to the taxpayers could be realized and these were estimated to be about \$1.05 per ton of wastes. The proposed system could be supported by user fees and taxes. This consolidation of effort was approved by the Planning Advisory Board and the County Commissioners.

As mentioned previously, the Greenleaf/Telesca Report made "no firm recommendations beyond those required for the immediate future...in order to allow time to evaluate the suggested demonstration projects as well as many innovative processes for converting, reclaiming, and recycling material which at present seem promising." The report concluded that incineration and sanitary landfilling of shredded wastes are the only proven methods capable of handling the large quantities of refuse generated within the county.

In regards to the landfilling operations, special consideration was given to the area's geographical condition including the prevalent high water table, the porosity of the limestone prevalent in the region, the low elevation of the land, and the scarcity of satisfactory material to be used as cover. The report outlines also the requirements for the sanitary landfills since the existing land disposal sites in Dade County violate

## A. THE GRANDLING OF LESSES REPORT

The first of report on solid waste discount in 1983 as a sensettion to report of the last at the last of tousty Descriptions of the last of tousty Description of the last of

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Federal and State regulations and are more appropriately described as dumps.

Incineration was also considered as an alternative solution for Dade County Wastes and included the modernization of the 20th and 58th Street incinerators to increase their capacity while complying with Federal, State and local air quality standards.

In the implementation of both plans, incineration and land-filling, a county-wide application of milling (shredding) of the solid wastes is proposed. One justification for this additional processing step is that shredding is the first step in many of the recycling plans being developed. Shredding reduces also the volume of the wastes, thereby increasing the life-span of the sanitary landfills, and promotes faster biochemical decomposition of the wastes.

The Greenleaf/Telesca report noted that by the year 1990, land disposal of unshredded wastes would require approximately 190 acres of land per year; if the wastes were shredded, only 90 acres would be required. The report mentioned the full-scale projects carried out in Madison, Wisconsin, and in Pompano Beach, Florida, which have shown that shredding of wastes extends the life of a sanitary landfill by 30 to 40 percent. The scarcity of soil for cover material is also a problem in Dade County and the shredding of wastes would substantially reduce the amount of cover required.

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### B. BOND ISSUE FOR SOLID WASTES

On election day, November 7, 1972, the voters of Dade

County approved eight out of ten proposed county bond issues,

for a total of \$533.1 million, to be spent for capital improvements. Included in this total was a \$50 million bond for improving the disposal of solid wastes. On this same date, the

Metro Board of County Commissioners passed Ordinance No. 72-80

requiring public hearings to be held before any bond issue projects are authorized or implemented. It also gives the citizens
a voice in determining which projects should have priority. Six

public hearings were held to determine priorities for the bond
issue projects.

Public response to the initial offering of \$66 million in bonds was excellent, with all of them purchased within two days. Several solid waste disposal projects were scheduled to be implemented with money from this first bond sale.

On September 4, 1973, the County Commission authorized the administration to advertise for proposals leading to solid waste disposal services throughout the County. Thirty-nine prospective bidders requested copies of the Request for Proposal. On November, 1973, 17 proposals were received and five of them were rejected because they failed to comply with the requirements. An Evaluation Committee was appointed by the County Commission to examine the 12 remaining proposals and informal public hearings and presentations were scheduled for December 1973. Mem-

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bers of the Evaluation Committee visited also several sites throughout the country to observe some of the latest processes used in solid waste disposal. The proposals received included conventional incineration, shredding and landfilling, composting, and resource (material and energy) recovery.

On January 23, 1974, Mr. R. Ray Goode, Dade County Manager, reported to the Mayor and County Commissioners that he concurred with the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee "that we reject all bids and go into a second round of bidding." (31)

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### C. NEW APPROACHES TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

It would be unfair to expect the Greenleaf/Telesca report to cover in detail every aspect of the solid waste problem in Dade County. The difficulties in solid waste management range from the technological to the political and social.

The Solid Waste Management Class found, in analyzing the problem, that some areas could benefit from more governmental attention, especially at the state level. Although the individual municipalities have addressed themselves to the problem in one form or another, there is an evident lack of general coordination. Studies have shown that the most desirable and efficient method of solid waste management in urban areas involves a definite geographical area, usually comprising several municipalities and sometimes more than one county.

As indicated in the report (Solid Waste Management) prepared by the National Association of Counties Research Foundation, (32) the advantages of areawide cooperative programs
include: greater flexibility in locating disposal sites; reduction in costs of collection and processing; economies of
scale; and better coordination of air and water pollution
control activities. An additional advantage, not mentioned in
this early report, is that successful reclamation and recycling of discarded wastes depends on large volumes of wastes.
Consequently, the Solid Waste Management class considers the
recommendation of Greenleaf/Telesca to establish a county-wide

the state of the country to the server of the latest process of the state of the st

reported to the major and County Considerant and to consulted as consulted and the total and the consulted and the consu

disposal agency as the first step in the proper management of solid wastes. It is the opinion of the class that efforts must be made to encourage the development of secondary materials industries which would reclaim and reuse discarded materials. Such industries will diversify the industrial sector, create employment opportunities, improve the disposal of solid wastes, and contribute to the conservation of several forms of energy.

To this effect, the advantages of creating a Regional or even a State Authority on solid waste management should be thoroughly explored and evaluated. Such Authority could determine the optimal program or programs, the optimal extent of the geographical areas, and the best location of the processing plants. It should be noted that at least two states, Wisconsin and Connecticut, have established state-wide authorities to manage the solid waste problem.

The regional approach has been used in land use, transportation, flood control, and other activities. The same approach should be effective in the management of solid wastes without impinging in the rights of the municipalities. Delay will not solve the problem but, on the contrary, will aggravate it. Since by the year 2,000 about 85 percent of the population of this country is expected to reside in metropolitan areas.

A regional agency may offer other important benefits such as encouraging accountability to the public. The multiplicity of agencies dealing with municipal problems leads to multiplicity of efforts and directions and discourages or dilutes ac-

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countability to the public. On the other hand, it is essential to have a mechanism of checks and balances to avoid the concentration of power in one particular agency. Because solid wastes is a public problem, public awareness, cooperation and participation is imperative for the reclamation and recycling of discarded resources. Therefore, it is highly desirable to develop educational and informational programs for the average citizens.

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### D. SOME PROBLEMS AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

In the opinion of the Solid Waste Management class, the following represent some of the factors hindering the proper management of wastes; in a constructive effort, the Class also presents a possible solution to each problem:

- Problem 1. Lack of long-range, comprehensive solid waste planning programs at the municipal, county, and state levels.
- Solution. Develop a desirable, comprehensive, economically self-supporting plan which will include economic and environmental advantages of a regional approach.

  The plan need not depend exclusively on a traditional method of disposal such as incineration or landfilling. Serious consideration should be given to other disposal methods and to reclamation of materials, or to a combination of methods.
- Problem 2. Several agencies have a direct but fragmentary responsibility for solid wastes which often hampers progress towards an overall objective.
- Solution. Consolidate in one agency all solid waste activities but subject to environmental and fiscal supervision by the public, local, and county governments.

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Problem 3. Lack of legislation at State level covering all phases of solid waste management.

Solution. Enact solid waste legislation at the state level
to provide regions, counties, and municipalities
with a uniform set of rules and regulations. The
creation of Regional or State Solid Waste Authority
should be considered. The State Legislature could
consider the "Suggested State Solid Waste and
Resource Recovery Incentives Act," (33) as approved
by the Council on State Governments, as a starting
point.

Problem 4. Need for public information and education.

Solution. Develop a program of public information and education to help citizens understand the solid waste problem and to respond to the challenge. The help of the State University System, environmental organizations, and private industry and business groups would be valuable.

Problem 5. Need to develop markets for products made with recycled materials.

Solution. State, County and Municipal Governments should not,
when planning solid waste programs, circumvent the
Secondary Material Industries (recycling industries).
Through encouragement and incentives for private

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industry, these governments can expand the markets for the utilization of solid waste materials.

Although solid waste management is a complex problem, a comprehensive management plan is feasible and within legislative reach. Indeed, the State of Wisconsin conducted an engineering study (34) which recommended the creation of a statewide municipal solid waste reclamation authority. This authority, "divided into regions, will permit the regions to operate independently, but as interrelated and cooperating entities."

To support the conclusion and recommendation that the best interests of the State require that municipal solid waste reclamation be administered on a regional basis, the Wisconsin report noted that such an Authority can:

- "a. Make long-term financial and contractual commitments.
  - b. Consolidate municipal solid waste operations by providing a means of crossing lines of local political jurisdiction.
  - c. Operate on a scale large enough to be efficient and economical.
  - d. Make maximum use of private enterprise in municipal solid waste reclamation.

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- e. Provide flexibility in operations to accommodate local conditions.
  - f. Assure environmentally acceptable municipal solid waste disposal to all citizens of the State.
- g. Provide materials to markets in sufficient quantity
  and reliability to be attractive to purchasers.
  - h. Permit the step-wise development of municipal solid waste reclamation facilities in pace with market development."

Considering not only the large amounts of wastes discarded annually--30 million tons of paper, 4 million tons of plastics, 48 billion metal cans, and 26 billion glass containers, for example--and the fact that some of the raw materials represent nonrenewable resources and that large amounts of energy are required to manufacture these products, reclamation and recycling is a logical and desirable policy.

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# E. RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction. Solid wastes may be considered mismanaged or wasted resources and any solid waste management program should consider the recovery and reuse of these resources. The recovery, however, should not be limited to the energy liberated through combustion; the approach should be from the point of view of the total environment including soil conservation and reclamation, the protection of both the freshwater and the marine environment, integration with land use plans, and even source reduction of solid waste by minimizing unnesessary consumption and/or increasing the reusability of certain products. It is acknowledged that although the recovery and reuse of certain wasted materials may not be economically viable at a particular time, this should not be an a priori decision applicable to all wastes. The recycling and reclamation of wastes have at least three benefits:

- They reduce the quantity of solid wastes to be disposed.
- 2. They reduce the quantity of virgin resources used (35)
- 3. They reduce the amount of fuel (energy) needed to manufacture products since it is usually more efficient to recycle or reclaim than to manufacture from virgin products.

The Returnable/Reusable Deposit Containers. There is evidence that a deposit on beverage containers encourages their return for reuse rather than being thrown away. The "Oregon Bottle Bill" has demonstrated the wisdom of legislation establishing a

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