Cahuilla Solid Waste and Recycling Program

- Funding
- Siting a location
- Design & Construction
- Operation/Econo mics
- Curbside service & Recycling
- Waste Reduction & Handling





Funded under GAP 4 Year "Pilot" program \$20,000 approved for construction Waste management position and bins funded for 4 years

Cahuilla Reservation Approximately 20,000 Acres, 70 Homes



Design & Construction

Limited funding under GAP (\$20K)

- 80'x80' (6,400 sq. ft.)
- 40'x40' concrete pad.
- 10'x10' storage building.
- 10' high chain link fence, 2 slide gates
- Five, 4 yard bins (20 cu. Yds. Cap.)



Operation / Economics

Open 3 day a week
Part time Waste tech
Started with 5 bins



- \$300 per bin for a total of \$1,500 per month
- Bins emptied once weekly/ 4 times monthly
- Bulk bin twice yearly (\$740 each)

The Case of the Disappearing Dumpsters !!









Dumpster Optimization

 After 2 months, trash inflow decreases to just under 4 dumpsters per week (\$1,200/Mo.)

 Diversion of recyclables and green wastes gets it down to 3 (\$900/Mo.)

 Initiation of curbside pickup with limited capacity trash bins with additional recycle bins gets it down to 2 (\$600/Mo.)

Penalized by Waste Management



\$100 per dumpster added to our monthly Bill

The Big Kahuna !



10 to 1 compaction on household refuse

What does that mean ?? 1 = -10 = -100





















That's 400 cu. Yards of waste !!

Do the math: At an average of 10 cu. Yds.
 Per week = 40 cu. Yds.
 Per month = 10 months

Cost to empty = \$400 hauling + \$300 tipping.

Total trash charges = <u>\$1k</u>vs. <u>\$18k</u> at start!!



Next steps for Cahuilla solid waste program:

Fire Waste Management – Handle all solid wastes on the Reservation.
 This includes: Casino (\$18k/year) Present Transfer Station costs (\$8k/year) TANF (\$5k/year) and Tribal Hall (\$4k/year) total of \$35k/year.

 All in close proximity – set up logistics of moving trash.

Recycling Program

Started (officially) this year.

Dove in small, diverting recyclables from trash brought to dumpsters.
Purchased scales and containers
Paying Tribal Members cash
CRV Aluminum cans, Glass Bottles
#1 & #2 CRV plastic
Accept all non CRV recyclables

Storage and Handling of recyclables









Compaction – best solution









Permitting Issues in California

 In CA, need permit to pay people for CRV.

- Tribes are sovereign, do not need permit, however can only redeem \$500 per day at recycle centers.
- Must allow state inspectors on site to receive permit.







