

Benefits of Managing Wastes at the York County Resource Recovery Center



About YCSWA

Authority Mission Statement:

Facilitate responsible solid waste management.

Goals:

- Use appropriate assessment tools, ensure that continuing solid waste management needs are met.
- Lead efforts to optimize environmental benefits from the management of solid waste.
- Provide or facilitate the availability of relevant long-term solid waste management programs and infrastructure that consider waste reduction, reuse, recycling, waste-to-energy and landfilling.
- Actively participate in the legislative and regulatory process at the federal, state and local levels.
- Attract, retain, motivate and continually improve the Authority in the pursuit of our mission and goals.
- Promote service and responsibility to our customers, community and other interested parties.



Sustainability:

The ability to reuse waste as fuel benefits the environment by avoiding the use of fossil fuels to generate power, reducing the volume of waste that must be managed in a landfill, minimizing the release of greenhouse gases due to the decomposition of waste, protecting wildlife and preserving valuable natural resources and land. What comes out of our plant's stack is what you would typically find in air-water, vapor, nitrogen, oxygen, and carbon dioxide. The remaining constituents are well below levels allowed under federal and state standards. Choosing waste-to-energy for business disposal needs helps to mitigate climate change.



York County Solid Waste Authority

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Waste-to-Energy is a Win-Win

Customer Appeal:

Businesses today recognize that their reputations are closely related to their customer appeal. In the age of sustainability, more and more customers seek businesses that employ responsible environmental practices, including the way they manage waste disposal.

Choosing Waste-to-Energy for Your Business is a Smart Choice:

- Preserves valuable land space for other uses
- Produces clean power from non-fossil fuels reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change
- Reduces long-term financial risk
- Increases the recovery and recycling of metals, sands and aggregates
- Increases recycling overall
- Avoids emissions from landfills
- Meets customer needs for sustainable business practices



Waste-to-Energy Introduction:

The York County Resource Recovery Center is a waste-to-energy facility that began operations in 1989. The facility uses municipal solid waste and residual wastes from industry as the fuel to produce alternative energy. Waste is converted to combustion ash from which metals, sand and aggregates are recovered. The Authority recently invested approximately \$105M in major site improvement construction projects that lay the foundation for the next 30-plus years of responsible management of waste. The facility is owned by the York County Solid Waste Authority and operated by Covanta York, LLC.

Cost Effectiveness:

Managing business waste at a landfill may initially seem to be a cost-effective choice, but when companies consider the long-term potential liability of environmental impacts, waste-to-energy is a more economical and environmentally friendly choice. Waste processed at a waste-to-energy facility is significantly reduced in volume to an inert ash reducing the potential for raw waste to break down and negatively impact soil and water. In addition, combustion of the waste occurs using very high heat in enclosed combustion units using advanced technology that includes air pollution controls to ensure regulatory air quality limits are maintained.

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