

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. Background [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

2022 Whatcom County Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan (CSHWMP)
Amendment

2. Name of applicant:

Whatcom County Health and Community Services

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor
Whatcom County Health and Community Services
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(360) 778-6036
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4. Date checklist prepared:

February 4, 2025

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Whatcom County Health and Community Services

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Proposed implementation of the Whatcom County CSHWMP Update will begin upon adoption and proceed through plan revision in 2026. The CSHWMP recommends various solid waste management programs to be developed and implemented over the next six years.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Yes, the CSHWMP will be reviewed annually after its implementation and revised every five years or as necessary, as required by state law (RCW 70A.205.075).

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

Washington State law requires that local governments develop a local CSHWMP. Whatcom County or the appropriate city within Whatcom County will conduct an environmental assessment of each element of the selected program prior to implementation. Each assessment will be conducted in compliance with State Environmental Policy Act. Specific sites associated with the CSHWMP are operated independently by private parties in accordance with permits. These permits require measures for protection of the environment as a condition of operation.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. No.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

In order to participate in the CSHWMP, each local jurisdiction will need to approve and adopt the CSHWMP. These jurisdictions include the Washington State Department of Ecology; Whatcom County Council; Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission; and the cities of Bellingham, Blaine, Everson, Ferndale, Lynden, Nooksack, and Sumas.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The Whatcom County CSHWMP defines goals and action items for the management and disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW) produced by households and commercial generators. The CSHWMP discusses all aspects of solid waste management in the county in both incorporated and unincorporated areas, including waste reduction, recycling, composting, collection, transfer, waste disposal, public education, enforcement, and administration. Due to the nature of the County's privatized system, most action items are targeted towards programs or policy refinements.

Recently adopted state laws have created requirements for local governments to identify priority areas to site organics management facilities, such as composting facilities, in order to divert more organic waste from landfills. The updated plan includes a map of priority sites for organics management facilities, taking into account factors such as zoning, frequently flooded areas, and transportation routes. There is no requirement to establish a new organics management facility in the plan, only to identify where such a facility may be located.

The primary goal of the hazardous waste chapter of the CSHWMP is to reduce the generation of hazardous waste and to reduce illegal hazardous waste dumping, including the improper disposal of hazardous waste in public landfills, sewers, storm drains, and septic systems. All local governments or combination of contiguous local governments are required to develop a local hazardous waste plan.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The jurisdiction of the CSHWMP will include all incorporated and unincorporated areas in Whatcom County, Washington, with the exception of the Lummi and Nooksack reservations, which are excluded from the planning area, and the far eastern portion of Whatcom County (including Newhalem and Diablo), which is serviced by the Skagit

County waste hauler and managed within their program. Certain plan action items are intended for specific areas within the County.

With regard to the priority areas identified to potentially site a new organics management facility, there is no specific location at this time.

B. Environmental Elements [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site:

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

This criterion does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended in the CSHWMP. If a need for any public facilities arises, the County will identify a site per the County's Comprehensive Plan and all applicable land use regulations and evaluate site conditions as part of a distinct SEPA review process.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate soils as part of SEPA documentation.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate soils as part of SEPA documentation.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate soils as part of SEPA documentation.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate soils as part of SEPA documentation.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate soils as part of SEPA documentation.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate soils as part of SEPA documentation.

2. Air [\[help\]](#)

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

No significant amounts of emissions to the air are anticipated as a result of any recommendations made by the CSHWMP. Actions in the plan are oriented towards reduction of solid waste disposal, thus reduction in transportation of solid waste and greenhouse gas emissions.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

There are no off-site sources of emissions or odor anticipated as part of the CSHWMP.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Does not apply.

3. Water [\[help\]](#)

a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate surface water as part of SEPA documentation.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

Does not apply. There are no site-specific recommendations in the CSHWMP.

b. Ground Water: [\[help\]](#)

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

Neither groundwater withdrawal for use as drinking water or other purposes, nor discharge of water to groundwater is contemplated as part of the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate ground water as part of SEPA documentation.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

Does not apply.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate water runoff as part of SEPA documentation.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

Does not apply.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

Does not apply.

4. Plants [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

- ☐ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☐ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ☐ shrubs
- ☐ grass
- ☐ pasture
- ☐ crop or grain
- ☐ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- ☐ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- ☐ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- ☐ other types of vegetation

Does not apply. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to identify and evaluate impacts to plants as part of SEPA documentation.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Does not apply.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Does not apply.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

Does not apply.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Does not apply.

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

- a. **List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.**

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

Does not apply. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to identify and evaluate impacts to animals as part of SEPA documentation.

- b. **List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

Does not apply.

- c. **Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

Does not apply.

- d. **Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**

Does not apply.

- e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

Does not apply.

6. **Energy and Natural Resources** [\[help\]](#)

- a. **What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

Petroleum-based fuels will be used for transportation of solid waste and equipment operation. The programmatic action items recommended as part of the planning process look to reduce waste generation, and therefore minimize the need for solid waste transportation and usage for petroleum-based fuels.

- b. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

Does not apply.

- c. **What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

The CSHWMP emphasizes waste reduction and recycling, which results in the conservation of energy and natural resources. The CSHWMP also recommends evaluating the potential use of biogas as a renewable energy source.

7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

No environmental risks are anticipated as a result of new or additional programs proposed by the CSHWMP. Potential environmental health hazards specific to existing facilities have been addressed by the third-party operations through operation plans or healthy and safety plans. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to identify and evaluate potential environmental health hazards as part of SEPA documentation.

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended as part of the CSHWMP.

2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended as part of the CSHWMP.

3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

There are no facility construction projects proposed as part of the CSHWMP. Storage of hazardous materials at the third-party facilities are managed through individual health and safety plans.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Additional emergency services are not required by any of the CSHWMP recommendations.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

There are no net increases in risk caused by the CSHWMP recommendations. Existing site-specific emergency procedures are addressed by the individual facilities as part of the sites' safety plans.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

There are no facilities proposed as part of the CSHWMP. Any future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate noise as part of SEPA documentation.

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

Does not apply.

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

Does not apply.

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.**

Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate land use as part of SEPA documentation.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?**

Does not apply.

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:**

Does not apply.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.**

Does not apply.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

Does not apply.

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

Does not apply.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Does not apply.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Does not apply.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

Does not apply.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

Does not apply.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

Does not apply.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

Does not apply.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Does not apply.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

Does not apply.

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Does not apply.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Does not apply.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

Does not apply.

10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

Does not apply. No structures are being proposed as part of the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate aesthetics as part of the SEPA review.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

Does not apply. No structures are being proposed as part of the CSHWMP.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

Does not apply. No structures are being proposed as part of the CSHWMP.

11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

Does not apply. No actions are being proposed that would create light or glare impacts. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate light and glare as part of the SEPA review.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

Does not apply.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

Does not apply.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

Does not apply.

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

Does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended as part of the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate recreation as part of the SEPA review process.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

Does not apply.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**

Does not apply.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

- a. **Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers ? If so, specifically describe.**

Does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended as part of the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate historic and cultural preservation as part of the SEPA review process.

- b. **Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.**

Does not apply.

- c. **Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

Does not apply.

- d. **Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

Does not apply.

14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended as part of the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate transportation as part of the SEPA review process.

- b. **Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

Does not apply.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

Does not apply.

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

Does not apply.

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Does not apply.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

Does not apply.

15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended as part of the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate public services as part of the SEPA review process.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

Does not apply.

16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

Does not apply. There are no site-specific actions recommended as part of the CSHWMP. Future solid waste facilities or programs will be required to evaluate public services as part of the SEPA review process.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

Does not apply.

C. Signature [\[HELP\]](#)

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: _____ 

Name of signee _____ Jennifer Hayden _____

Position and Agency/Organization _____ Environmental Health Supervisor – Whatcom County
Health and Community Services _____

Date Submitted: _____ 2/5/2025 _____

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[HELP\]](#)

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Implementation of the proposed CSHWMP should result in an overall decrease in discharges to the environment as a result of management strategies developed to prevent or minimize problems

associated with solid waste and household hazardous waste. By providing for secure disposal of solid wastes and increased recycling activities, the CSHWMP is expected to decrease impacts and discharges to water and air, and to provide for more secure handling of toxic or hazardous substances that may be part of the solid waste stream. No substantial increases or decreases in noise levels are expected as a result of the CSHWMP's recommendations.

Recycling, waste reduction, composting, and educational programs, along with the construction and demolition debris diversion incentives, recommended in the CSHWMP should increase public awareness and contribute to decreasing the discharge of contaminants into the environment.

Any new organics management facility that would be established in order to divert more organics from the landfill would reduce methane production and landfill leachate.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Goals and actions established during the planning process will reduce impacts to water, air, and noise, and will minimize the release of toxic or hazardous substances into the environment. In addition to enhancing programming for recycling, waste reduction, composting, and educational programming, the County will look at ways to better manage special waste streams, in particular, beneficial reuse alternatives for street sweepings and contaminated soil.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Implementation of the proposed CSHWMP should result in improved quality of habitat for plant and animal species in the county by reducing pollution discharged to lakes, streams, groundwater, and air through proper management strategies, source reduction, recycling, and improved disposal methods for solid waste.

Under the County's plan to keep disposal rates low and provide for community education, occurrences of illegal dumping is expected to remain low. Dumping in uninhabited areas not only contributes the pollution of the area, but the exposed waste can contribute to the pollution of stormwater which runs off into streams and rivers or can make its way into groundwater.

The recommended educational programs should result in increased public awareness, and should further result in the reduction of land, water and air contamination, improving environmental quality for plants, animals, fish, marine life, and humans.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

Does not apply.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Implementation of the CSHWMP's strategies for recycling and waste reduction will result in conservation of energy and natural resources. The use of recycled materials generally requires less energy to produce the final product. Replacing virgin resources with recycled materials in the manufacturing process also reduces the demand on natural resources. Reducing the amount of construction and demolition debris going to landfills will conserve building materials and landfill space. Implementation of the CSHWMP should conserve energy in that much of the collected

hazardous waste stream such as solvents, oil based paint, and motor oil are actually utilized in energy recovery processes for the disposal mechanism.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

The proposal will conserve energy and natural resources.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

The CSHWMP recommendations will enhance environmentally sensitive areas by improving water quality through the education of the public to properly manage and dispose of solid and hazardous waste, and the positive impact of low disposal fees on illegal dumping.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

Proposed measures to reduce impacts to sensitive areas include extensive public education on proper waste disposal, source reduction, and recycling of solid waste. In addition, the County will use existing enforcement mechanisms to understand and address existing illegal disposal issues occurring in unincorporated areas. Curbing these behaviors will result in greater protection of the County's parks and natural areas.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The CSHWMP does not make any recommendations for land and shoreline use that are incompatible with existing plans or regulations.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

No impacts are anticipated.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Transportation impacts in the solid waste system are reflected by the number of hauler trips for curbside collection. Demand for more truck trips will increase with the county growth in population. However, the CSHWMP establishes the framework for additional public education and waste reduction programs that aim to reduce the amount of per capita waste generated. These programs will mitigate the transportation needs for the solid waste system.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

The CSHWMP waste reduction programs aim to reduce per capita waste generation, thereby mitigating the need for additional curbside collection trucks.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

The CSHWMP was prepared in response to State requirements for the proper management of solid waste and household hazardous waste, and they comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and requirements regarding environmental protection.