REDUCE.
REUSE.
RECYCLE.
ROT.

“OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO OUR FUTURE GENERATION AND COMMUNITY.”

2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT

“WORKING TOWARDS A FUTURE WITHOUT LANDFILLS.”
OUR STAFF
GET SOCIAL WITH US!
Let's Make an Impact Together
WE'RE ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE!

You Have Questions, We Have Answers!
GIVE US A CALL, EMAIL OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Salinas Valley Recycles is on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram & YouTube! Our pages are regularly updated with upcoming events, photos, videos, links, articles, and tips on waste reduction. “Like” us to stay connected and get important up-to-date information about local solid waste and recycling issues!

Give us a call and we're here to help!
Not into phones? No problem. We're here through email.
Visit us on our website

Administration Office
128 Sun Street, Suite 101
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 775-3000

Sun Street Transfer Station
139 Sun Street
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 424-5535

Household Hazardous Waste Facility
139 Sun Street
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 424-5520

Johnson Canyon Landfill
31400 Johnson Canyon Road
Gonzales, CA 93926
(831) 575-2165

Jolon Road Transfer Station
5254 Jolon Road
King City, CA 93930
(831) 385-0353

info@svswa.org

www.SalinasValleyRecycles.org

To view SVRF's Recycling Guide, visit our website
www.SalinasValleyRecycles.org

Report

WE ARE MORE THAN JUST A WEBSITE!

Stay Connected
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- Twitter.com/SalinasValleyRecycles
- Instagram/SalinasValleyRecycles
- Youtube.com/users/SVSWA631

Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic
With solid waste disposal and recycling services being an essential service, SVR put several measures in place to keep employees and customers safe, and to ensure vital operations remained accessible to service-area customers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Diversion employees interact with the public the most. These women and men are responsible for customers entering and leaving Johnson Canyon Landfill, Sun Street Transfer Station and Jolon Road Transfer Station. They provide information about facility services for self-haul and commercial customers. To protect our invaluable employees and customers they serve, SVR installed plexiglass barriers and air purifiers at scale houses, follow the 6 feet social distancing and required mask mandate to protect customers and employees.
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> When you put the whole picture together, recycling is the right thing to do. - Pam Shoemaker
A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER/CAO

Salinas Valley Recycles (SVR) weathered the COVID storm with great success in FY 2020-21. We can’t be prouder and more appreciative of the incredible work our staff did during this trying time to advance our mission and protect our customers and themselves. We received and processed record amounts of materials and saw record customer trips at all our facilities across the region. COVID protocols and community effects created many new challenges that staff rose to meet and successfully continued delivery of our valued public services.

Sustainable Finances

Strong and sustainable financial governance remains a cornerstone for SVR and directly contributed to our ability to weather the COVID effects in our region. With the Board’s leadership, SVR has established a strong set of financially sustainable policies and practices to guide the agency’s future and reduce ratepayer risks and costs into the future. We remain in the best financial shape of SVR’s 23-year history, despite the COVID challenges we all faced. SVR’s net position is positive and growing, and strategic reserves are being funded. We are in a strong position to continue to sustain critical operations, meet new unfunded State mandates, fund new infrastructure for organics and recycling activities, and advance SVR goals through future economic downturns without excessively disruptive measures.

In short, SVR is financially sustainable, forward looking and applying creative new approaches to run cost effective government utility services. Here are a few highlights:

- Considering the many pandemic challenges facing our community and member agencies, the Board decided to forgo scheduled rate increases for FY 2020-21 to reduce our impact on community and business ratepayers. “Rainy Day” reserves were available to sustain operations should the need have arisen, but due to improved economics and cost controls SVR did not need reserves to move through the pandemic.

- Permitted landfill space is the single most valuable asset for agencies in our industry. SVR operations are now fully financed with local revenues only and not reliant on the non-sustainable sale of valuable community landfill space to outside agencies.

- Landfill tipping fees have remained unchanged since FY 2016-17 because of stronger than anticipated Agency performance and conservative Board fiscal policy.

- SVR has implemented several Pay-As-You-Go practices to reduce the need for future debt, which means more of our public funds go directly to infrastructure and program needs and less to pay bank or bond interest. As an example, the Board of Directors approved a policy in 2018 to set aside $5.00 per ton of waste landfilled to cover the future cost to construct the next landfill cell, eliminating the need for future debt financing.

- With several good economic years in a row and revenues above normal, the Board made a strategic decision to use revenue surpluses each year to fully pay off our unfunded pension liability and not allow it to grow to an unmanageable level. Not only did this action save SVR over $1 million in future carrying costs for this liability, but it reduced liabilities associated with any future economic downturns affecting the pension fund.

- Through staff-initiated project/program savings and smart agency growth management, we are now direct funding capital infrastructure/equipment replacement, placing SVR in a stronger position to directly fund new capital needs to expand waste diversion activities in the future.

- All of the above fiscal successes of the Board are reflected SVR’s historic change in Net Position from a low of approximately (-$12 million) in FY 2009-10 to a high of +$25 million in FY 2020-21, representing a positive change of $37 million in the last 11 years.
Challenges Overcome

I want to again commend our Board and staff for remaining so strong and committed to quality public service in the face of uncertainties around City of Salinas membership in SVR. A significant commitment of staff time was put into collaboration with the new City Administration this fiscal year to resolve the Sun Street Relocation Project and receive City commitment to rescind its notice to withdraw from SVR. All parties have worked very hard to find compromise to meet the growing public demand for our services, fulfill new unfunded State mandates, support the City’s future development needs, and find a new home in our largest public service sector (Salinas). The key to this challenge was finding a collaborative solution to relocate our Sun Street Transfer Station Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste programs to Republic Services, Madison Lane Transfer Station which will allow the city to begin development of the Alisal Market Place, and SVR to continue services and limit employee impacts.

Organics Diversion from Landfilling:

State mandated organics recovery is now the single most challenging regulation to come out of Sacramento since AB 939 in 1989. This new law will be challenging not only for SVR, but for all our businesses and residents, and member agencies. Compliance with this new law and the pending regulations will fall on everyone’s shoulders to participate, act and adjust to this new recycling mandate.

SB 1383 was adopted in 2016 and requires significant reductions of anything organic (food, yard waste, wood, paper) going into landfills. The good news is SVR’s Board and staff have been actively planning for these changes for over 5 years and have made substantial progress in our regional planning, program development, education and processing infrastructure for handling the expected increase in recovered organic materials. New regional planning documents have been provided to each member agency to assist each community with SB 1383 compliance. Programs implementation and SB 1383 compliance activities for both member agencies and SVR are well under way.

Our Future

The decisions SVR makes today regarding a cost-effective and sustainable waste management system will serve our communities and future generations for decades to come and be a model for others to emulate. We will continue to encourage the Board, staff, partners, community, and stakeholders to look into the future and imagine a world without trash and in its place a system to repurpose, reuse, reduce and recycle all our thrown away resources.

Community partnerships, technological innovation and climate adaptation continue to drive the future vision of SVR and our partner agencies. Our vision for a cleaner, healthier, and more vibrant community is both challenging and exciting, because change is both necessary and good. However, change is often hard to achieve in this complex world of regulation, finance, community, and politics. With SVR Board of Director’s leadership, we are a more efficient, agile, and progressive agency, designed to meet the challenges of the “New Normal” for government services and sustainability, both financial and environmental.

This annual report is a summary of SVR’s accomplishments, waste reduction activities, cost savings measures, and its dedicated professional staff for the FY 2020-2021. We hope this report provides the reader with a clear overview of the sustainable direction of Salinas Valley Recycles! As SVR’s member agencies embark on implementing their local plans to create more vibrant, healthy, and sustainable communities, the contributions of SVR to these goals are substantial.

SVR continues to strive to be a model for the delivery of government utility services: Sustainable, Low-Cost, Public Service Focused, Friendly, Effective and Strategic. I want to again thank the Salinas Valley Recycles Board of Directors, staff, community partners, our Citizens and all those who have supported our efforts to improve our environment and help make sustainable living in the Salinas Valley a reality.

R. Patrick Mathews
General Manager/Chief Administrative Officer
About Us

Who We Are

The Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority, aka Salinas Valley Recycles (SVR), is a joint powers agency made up of the following local governments: Monterey County (eastern half of the unincorporated county), and the cities of Salinas, Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City.

What is a Joint Power Agency?

A joint powers agency (JPA) is a governmental body that is formed by two or more local governments (cities or counties) joining together to address a specific service need that is common to all members of the group. JPAs are often formed to address such regional issues as water, sewer, solid waste, public safety, and transportation.

What We Do

SVR is responsible for providing secure long-term solid waste disposal and resource recovery services to all of its members in an environmentally sound and cost-effective manner. SVR currently owns one active and three closed landfills, two transfer stations, and oversees the operation and management of these facilities. SVR is also responsible for overseeing future landfill siting or expansion to meet the area’s long-term solid waste disposal needs. Our agency’s focus though is much more than just landfills; see our Mission, Vision, and Values to learn more about our vision of a future without landfills.

Mission Statement

“To manage Salinas Valley solid waste as a resource, promoting sustainable, environmentally sound and cost-effective practices through an integrated system of waste reduction, reuse, recycling, innovative technology, customer service, and education.”

Vision Statement

“To reduce the amount of waste by promoting individual and corporate responsibility. To recover waste for its highest and best use while balancing rates and services. To transform our business from burying waste to utilizing waste as a resource. To eliminate the need for landfills.”

Values

Innovation
Integrity
Public Education
Efficiency
Fiscal Prudence
Resourcefulness
Customer Service
Community Partnerships
Thank you to our Board Members!
SVR wants to express their gratitude for your service. Board service is the toughest role, and you took on your board duties with dedication, grace and seriousness.

Board of Directors

Board Alternates
- Luis Alejo, County of Monterey
- Orlando Osornio, City of Salinas
- Scott Funk, City of Gonzales
- Carla Strobridge, City of Soledad
- Robert White, City of Greenfield
- Darlene Acosta, City of King

Meeting Schedules

The Board of Directors meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the City of Gonzales Council Chambers with some exceptions.

The Executive Committee, (Board of Directors Officers), meets monthly on the Thursday two weeks before each Board of Directors meeting as necessary at 4:00 p.m. at SVR’s Administration Office.

For more information on meeting schedules or agendas, contact Clerk of the Board, Erika J. Trujillo, (831) 775-3012, erikat@svswa.org or visit our website www.SalinasValleyRecycles.org

Meeting agendas can be viewed by visiting our website www.svswa.org/government/agendas-meeting-schedules
July
- Meeting Recess

August
- Due to COVID Board meetings were held virtually, via Zoom.
- Mary Ellen Lopez, Scale house attendant at the Sun Street Transfer Station received the 2020 Employee of the Year award. She was elected by her peers and after 11 years of service Mary Ellen retired.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Authority and the County of Monterey was approved for litter abatement services, to support expanding illegal dumping clean-up in rural areas.
- Contracts were awarded to SCS Engineers, Diversion Strategies and Green Mountain for the development of the SB 1383 Organics Program Planning and Composting Marketing” program plans, compost marketing plan, and technical assistance.
- Vision Recycling, the organics processor for the Authority, began creating compost on the new state-of-the-art Aerated Static Pile compost pad.
- No action was taken by the City of Salinas regarding the Notice of Intent to withdraw from the Joint Powers Agency submitted to the Authority in December 2018.

September
- The 2019-20 Annual Report was presented to the Board.
- Jesse G. Sanchez Elementary School was recognized for their accomplishment of earning the 2020 California Resource Recovery Association (CCRA) Outstanding School Recycling Program Award. They were the first school in the Salinas Valley to implement a comprehensive food waste collection program diverting 75% of all cafeteria waste.
- A meeting between the City of Salinas Mayor Pro Tem, City of Salinas staff, and the Authority President, Vice President and staff was scheduled to continue discussions on the conditions presented by the City of Salinas to rescind the Notice of Intent to Withdraw from the Joint Powers Agency.
- The Authority continued to work with Republic Services on a response regarding the completion of the needs assessment study that was deemed necessary for the consideration of any type of potential lease option at the Madison Lane Transfer Station.

October
- The annual Comprehensive Financial Report for fiscal year 2019-20 was presented demonstrating that the Agency continues to not have internal weaknesses or material deficiencies and once again did not receive a management letter from the auditors.
- A one-time opportunity was presented of a regional franchise procurement process that could provide the benefit from an economy of scale, offers the ability to correct any out of balance rates, adjust all franchise agreements to be uniform and consistent with current laws and legislation, and the ability to explore new service ideas.
- Recurring meetings were held between elected officials, Authority staff, and City of Salinas staff to discuss the five priorities: (1) Negotiations with Republic Services for the potential transfer of the Sun Street Transfer Station operations to the Madison Lane Transfer Station; (2) Identification of other potential properties for the relocation; (3) Leaving the Sun Street Transfer Station location; (4) The rescinding of the Notice of Intent to Withdraw, and (5) Reviewing the Governance of the Authority.
- The Authority General Manager met with the Interim City Manager of Salinas, Public Works Director, and Republic Services General Manager to provide information on the current status of the relocation project, guidelines, expectations, and other pertinent matters.

November
- Proclamations were presented to Gloria De La Rosa, Board member since December 2001 and John “Tony” Villegas, Board member since March 2018.
- Monterey Mushrooms in Royal Oaks, California was recognized by the Authority for having implemented a Sustainable Recycling Program.
• The final reports for SB 1383 Organics Program Planning and Composting Marketing Reports developed by the consultants SCS Engineers, and Diversion Strategies in partnership with Green Mountain Technologies were presented to the Board.

• The Gloria/Iverson/Johnson Canyon Road Reconstruction Project was completed.

• The Board received a presentation on the PLASTICFUEL technology, a technology that converts dirty waste plastic into finished certified, drop-in fuel. A proposal was offered to the Authority to lease property at the closed Crazy Horse Landfill to site a demonstration facility.

• The recurring meetings between the Interim City Manager of Salinas, Public Works Director, and Republic Services General Manager to discuss the status of the relocation project, guidelines, expectations, and other related matters had continued.

December
• Meeting Recess

January
• The Board welcomed the newest and returning Board members, Anthony Rocha and Kimbley Craig representatives for the City of Salinas, and Ben Jimenez, Jr. representative for the City of Soledad.

• The results of the annual Employee survey conducted to measure employees’ engagement, morale, and satisfaction levels, as well as collect ideas for improvement and determine any trends were presented.

• The FY 2021-22 Preliminary Budget was presented to the Board for input and direction.

• The recurring meetings between the Interim City Manager of Salinas, Public Works Director, and Republic Services General Manager to discuss the status of the relocation project, guidelines, expectations, and other related matter continued.

February
• The proposed $20,525,000 balanced budget for FY 2021-22 was once again reviewed by the Board.

• The meetings continued between staff from the City of Salinas, Republic Services, and the Authority to discuss the framework of a non-binding agreement for a public/private partnership for the potential relocation of the Sun Street Transfer Station with details being discussed during Closed Session by the Board.

March
• The Board was apprised of on the unexpected mandate that took effect on January 1, 2021, affecting the disposal of Treated Wood Waste (TWW) at landfills.

• A rate hearing was held to consider the disposal and service fees that would take effect July 1, 2021. The Board of Directors was unable to come to an agreement on one of the two options presented for consideration; option one included equalized rates for Organics processing, and the second included an increase in the AB 939 fee to offset the shortfall for the City of Salinas due to delays in adjusting its Organics process rate to equalize it with the other members. A second hearing was scheduled for the April 15, 2021 meeting.

• The Board approved the formation of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to ensure that the mandated requirements of SB 1383 are met.

April
• A contract was awarded to Action Research for Community Based Social Marketing Services to assist the Authority in transition from standard marketing services to a targeted behavioral change approach and meet the requirements of both Assembly Bill 1826 and SB 1383.

• A second public hearing was held with the Board approving the Fees and Rates effective July 1, 2021 that included the increase in the AB 939 fees that will offset the shortfall for the City of Salinas due to delays in adjusting its Organics process rate to equalize it with the other members. Subsequently, the $20,525,000 Operating Budget for the FY 2021-22 was approved.

May
• An informational presentation was given to the Board on a potential new partnership and project opportunity with Machado & Sons, Inc. and Ameresco for the proposed new project idea to convert agricultural wastes and landfill gas to Renewable Natural Gas.

• An update on the progress made on the SB 1383 Organics Recycling Programs was presented to the Board that include the completed revised program reports and the various Anaerobic Digestion technologies being considered to expand the existing composting capacity.

• A presentation on the Johnson Canyon Landfill Development was provided to the Board.

• A two-year lease extension for the Administration office was approved by the Board.

June
• Rancho Cielo received the 2021 Food Waste & Recycling Award, in partnership with Authority staff, Monterey County Health, and Waste Management for implementing food waste collection services for their entire campus and successfully increased recycling capacity, decreased garbage volume, and completed all five required activities.

• Agreements with Rock Steady Juggling and The Eco Hero Show were approved to continue the school assemblies.

• A presentation was given summarizing the decisions made by the Board over the last several years to help ensure that the Agency maintains sustainable financing.

• The recurring meetings between the Interim City Manager of Salinas, Public Works Director, and Republic Services General Manager to discuss the status of the relocation project, guidelines, expectations, and other related matters continued.

• The Board decided to remain on the existing all remote meeting platforms until such time as existing Brown act exemptions are lifted by the state.
Our People
Our Strength
Our Success

At Salinas Valley Recycles, we are united in our passion for improving the quality of our community through reduce, reuse, recycle and rot. We recognize the immense important of having a varied set of perspectives, backgrounds and expertise. We're proud that our staff reflect that conviction.

We hear over and over again that it feels different to work with us. We are a unique, collaborative culture full of passionate people who care about our community and customers needs.

Our people are critical to our ability to deliver high-quality customer service. Our purpose is building a better working world. Save the Earth. Keep it Green. Keep it Clean.

Our experts will help educate you and your staff on the proper way to recycle.

If your goal is to become a Zero Waste Business or School, then we will provide diversion reports that will show your progress toward achieving your goal.

Salinas Valley Recycles is ready to help you, your business or school to become Zero Waste.

WE ARE READY TO HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR GOAL OF ZERO WASTE!

Salinas Valley Recycles
Administration Office
(831) 775-3000

Congratulations
ON YOUR PROMOTION

Jason Guillen
promoted to Field Operations Supervisor
May 17, 2021

Ernesto Macias
promoted to HW Maintenance Worker
May 17, 2021

Congratulations
to Linda R. Vasquez on completing the Accounting Certification Program

Visit our website: www.SalinasValleyRecycles.org
CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

MONICA & OSCAR

For many of us, this past year was full of varying levels of fear and uncertainty, but Monica, Human Resource Supervisor made the transition of these ever-changing restrictions smooth and almost seamless. We can only imagine the behind-the-scenes information reviewed in order to create and develop the policies and procedures necessary to keep everyone safe and informed, as well as the adaptation of working from home. She did all of this while also performing regular business tasks such as internal and external recruitments, and balancing her own personal and family needs. Her promptness and just-do-it attitude helped us always remain informed and assured that new safety protocols were quickly implemented.

Oscar, Solid Waste Technician has been a dedicated and reliable employee from day one. He is always busy with a number of tasks that includes being on call for multiple sites, and always shows up to work in a good mood. He has a variety of skills and is always willing to take on a new task to help out. Some of the items he did to improve the workplace were helping to fix/replace our Landfill gas line systems, ensuring that we stayed within government regulations at our sites, and replacing phone lines at the scale house that are critical for business. Oscar was instrumental in the construction of the compactor ASP system. Oscar is a great self-motivated employee everyday that he comes to work. He can always be counted on.

Celebrating Years of Service Awards . . .
every year counts

| Cesar Zuniga                                      | Louis Martinez                                      |
| Operations Manager / Assistant                  | Diversion Worker 3 Years of Service                 |
| General Manager 20 Years of Service             |                                                    |
| Ernesto Natera                                  | Tomas Lopez                                         |
| Business Service Supervisor 15 Years of Service | Heavy Equipment Operator 1 Year of Service          |
| Jason Guillen                                    | Paul Olivas                                         |
| Field Operations Supervisor 10 Years of Service  | Solid Waste Technician 1 Year of Service            |
| Gonzalo De Leon                                  | Rigoberto Murrillo                                   |
| Equipment Operator 5 Years of Service            | Diversion Worker 1 Year of Service                  |
| Brian Kennedy                                    | Roberto Aguilar                                      |
| Engineering & Environmental Compliance Managers  | Equipment Maintenance Technician 1 Year of Service  |
| 5 Years of Service                               |                                                    |

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment. This is a great honor for our Accounting Team and the award reflects well upon everyone at SVR.

A LITTLE THANKS GOES A LONG WAY
# Operating Budget

## FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2020-21 Budget</th>
<th>FY 2021-22 Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tipping Fees - Solid Waste</td>
<td>14,386,000</td>
<td>14,386,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tipping Fees - Transportation Surcharge</td>
<td>1,215,800</td>
<td>1,486,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tipping Fees - Diverted Materials</td>
<td>3,124,200</td>
<td>3,186,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>AB939 Service Fee</td>
<td>2,733,000</td>
<td>3,460,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Revenues</td>
<td>751,800</td>
<td>751,800</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES</strong></td>
<td>22,209,800</td>
<td>23,271,850</td>
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## OPERATING EXPENDITURES

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<th>FY 2021-22</th>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>2,711,500</td>
<td>2,782,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resource Recovery</td>
<td>6,053,400</td>
<td>6,506,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfer Station Operations</td>
<td>3,191,400</td>
<td>3,379,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landfill Operations</td>
<td>3,338,400</td>
<td>3,338,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debt Service</td>
<td>3,136,800</td>
<td>3,134,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure Set-Aside</td>
<td>336,000</td>
<td>336,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Future Cell Construction Set-Aside</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
<td>1,050,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td>19,817,500</td>
<td>20,525,000</td>
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## NET OPERATING REVENUE

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2020-21</th>
<th>FY 2021-22</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post Closure Maintenance</td>
<td>(1,055,000)</td>
<td>(1,070,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocated for CIP</td>
<td>(1,500,300)</td>
<td>(1,670,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use of One Time Surplus</td>
<td>170,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL BUDGETED SURPLUS</strong></td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>6,850</td>
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## REVENUE

- Tipping Fees - Solid Waste: 61.4%
- Tipping Fees - Diverted Materials: 13.7%
- Tipping Fees - Transportation Surcharge: 6.1%
- AB939 Service Fee: 14.5%
- Other Revenues: 3.2%

## EXPENDITURES

- Administration: 13.6%
- Debt Service: 15.5%
- Landfill Operations: 16.8%
- Transfer Station Operations: 16.5%
- Resource Recovery: 31.7%
- Future Cell Construction Set-Aside: 5.1%
**Capital Improvement Projects:**

The following Projects are to be budgeted in FY 2021-22:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Replacement (3 sites)</td>
<td>$1,120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organics Program</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson Canyon LFG System Improvements</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadway Maintenance/Improvements</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson Canyon Litter Barrier</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>JR Transfer Station Improvements</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concrete Grinding</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Surplus Allocations</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,670,000</strong></td>
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**Equipment Replacement ($1,120,000)**

SVR operates two transfer stations, and one landfill. To replace necessary equipment, money is set aside every year. The Board approved the Sun Street Equipment replacement plan on August 22, 2013. A Capital Purchase Lease Loan was taken when the Authority took over operations of Johnson Canyon Landfill with annual payments of $800,000. An internal loan was taken when SVR took over operations of Jolon Road Transfer Station with annual payments of $120,000. The final payments for both loans were completed in FY 2019-20. The amounts used to pay these loans are now included in the CIP for future capital equipment replacement needs on a Pay-As-You-Go basis. This will allow SVR to replace the equipment purchased with these loans with cash on hand rather than having to take out additional debt.

The Equipment Replacement budget for all three sites is $1,120,000 and are allocated to each site as follows:

- Johnson Canyon Landfill - $800,000
- Sun Street Transfer Station - $200,000
- Jolon Road Transfer Station - $120,000

**Organics Program ($250,000)**

On September 31, 2017, the Board approved the expanded organics program to meet the levels of diversion and greenhouse gas emission reductions required by various state mandates, including the Global Warming Solutions Act (Assembly Bill (AB) 32), the Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling Program (AB 1826), and Short-Lived Climate Pollutants and Methane Emissions Reduction Strategy (Senate Bill 1383), which effectively eliminates the disposal of organic materials (including food scraps) in landfills by 2025 with interim reduction mandates. An Organics grant in the amount $1.34 million was awarded and accepted from CalRecycle to fund the infrastructure needed for the new organics program. The capital replacement budget includes $250,000 in funding in order to ensure that we have funds set aside (Pay-As-You-Go funding) to replace heavy equipment and de-packaging machine, as well as any continued improvements needed for the composting site.

**Johnson Canyon LFG System Improvements ($100,000)**

As landfill operations continue at the Johnson Canyon Landfill, so is the need to assure an effective environmental control system is in place. Setting aside $100,000 annually for landfill gas (LFG) system improvement will allow us to maintain and replace wells as needed.

**Johnson Canyon Litter Barrier ($50,000)**

The litter barrier control fence along the property boundary helps to prevent litter from leaving the site. The $50,000 annual funding allows staff to expand and replace the barrier as needed.

**Jolon Road Transfer Station Improvements ($25,000)**

When staff took over operations of the Jolon Road Transfer Station in September 2016, some initial repairs were completed at that time. Setting aside $25,000 annually will help ensure that any future capital repairs and/or improvements at the site have a minimal impact on the budget.

**Concrete Grinding ($25,000)**

SVR receives concrete, asphalt, and porcelain at its facilities for recycling. The material is consolidated at the Johnson Canyon Landfill and used as aggregate base to construct its internal access roads and a winter tipping pad that allows both the public and franchise haulers to access the tipping face in the winter months.

Most of the material is crushed with onsite equipment and placed as needed. The larger portions require stockpiling and contracted crushing to produce the re-usable material for onsite needs. However, this material is only processed once every few years. In order to have enough funds available for processing, money is set aside each year on a Pay-As-You-Go basis until enough material is stockpiled to warrant grinding.
Salinas: 153,146 (66%)
Monterey County: 30,942 (13%)
Soledad: 14,366 (6%)
Gonzales: 11,396 (5%)
Greenfield: 10,588 (5%)
King: 10,870 (5%)
Other (out of district): 155 (<1%)
Operations

Module 7:
The newly constructed Module 7 at Johnson Canyon Landfill requires placement of protective soils over the lined areas. SVR staff place the protective layer before they place garbage.

Crazy Horse Landfill:
To satisfy the requirements of a State Water Resources Control Board permit, SVR staff planted 41 willow cuttings near the stormwater pond at the Crazy Horse Landfill. Included is a solar powered watering system and protective fencing to deter deer activity. This is the final part of a riparian remediation project related to the closure of the landfill.

All Sites Customer Trips—Year Over Year
SVR has become an integral part of the Salinas Valley. Customers trips to our facilities have increased since FY 2016-16 showing there is a strong need in the community for SVR’s facilities. Each of SVR’s facilities provides an outlet for customers to bring their recyclables and trash to assist local jurisdictions in minimizing illegal dumping. Having three locations in the Salinas Valley ensures all residents and business have disposal & recycling options located near them. Recycling programs are setup at all three locations to ensure the highest levels of recycling is achieved while keeping cost for customers as low as possible to promote public interest in recycling and proper disposal of trash. The operating hours are tailored to our customers needs. The Sun Street Transfer Station in Salinas and Jolon Road Transfer Station are open Monday through Saturday, while Johnson Canyon Landfill is open seven days a week.

Johnson Canyon Landfill is the only disposal facility in the Tri-County Area open on Sundays.

Johnson Canyon Gas Well:
As the landfill gets filled the need to capture landfill gas generated by the buried garbage is important. SVR staff was busy building landfill gas wells this year to capture this gas to reduce surface methane emissions.
CalRecycle Organics Diversion Grant

April 1, 2021 concluded the Extended Organics Grant term. SVR successfully expended the full amount of $1,340,555,89 in grant funds to complete the project. At the conclusion of the term, SVR netted a Greenhouse Gas reduction of 14,145 MTCO2e, due to SVR staff’s innovative approach to diverting organic material through various means of anaerobic digestion (in partnership with Carmel- Area Wastewater District), windrow composting, aerated static pile composting, and the partnership with The Food Bank for Monterey County for food rescue and distribution program.

20 Years of Tire Amnesty

The newly awarded CalRecycle’s FY 2021-22 Tire Amnesty Grant marks SVR’s 10th consecutive grant awarded for the recycling of hundreds of thousands of tires disposed from the Salinas Valley since the initial grant funding cycle FY 1999-00. The new grant of $77,757 will allow for continued free tire disposal for community residents and estimates recycling an additional 35,000 tires, preventing these from being landfilled.

20 YEAR DATA
Funds Awarded: 643,415
*Tons Collected: 157
*Tires Recycled: 314,507
*Reflects the amount of tires collected through 6/30/21.

C.A.R.E Carpet Grant

This grant helped purchase two covered storage containers to help keep carpet dry for recycling. During the grant term, which concluded January 2021, an estimated 10 tons of additional carpet was able to be recycled, reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions by 29.8 MTCO2e.

First Tire Amnesty Event

Elia Zavala
Contracts & Grant Analyst

Grants & More

Beverage Container Recycling Programs

Yes, we can! And we have! For over 20 years, on behalf of member cities, SVR has applied for and administered state funding known as CalRecycle’s City/County Payment Program issued to cities for implementing programs and infrastructure to increase recycling of CRV beverage container (bottles and cans).

Over the years, SVR has helped the cities purchase recycling receptacles for indoor and outdoor public spaces, schools, businesses, and multifamily complexes to help them comply with AB 341 (mandatory recycling). These funds have also served to promote recycling through media outlets, purchase litter cleanup supplies for community cleanup events, and help keep our roadways clean.

SVR currently administers a combined average of $21,500 per annual funding cycle for the Cities of King, Greenfield, Soledad, and Gonzales.
Food De-packager Update:

In FY 2020-21 the De-packaging facility was able to divert approximately 2,305 tons of packaged produce and food waste into the composting process. This represents a 62% diversion rate based on the total amount of material received at the facility. Also in May 2021, Republic Services’ source-separated commercial food waste from Salinas customers was re-directed to the de-packager to remove any contamination and then mixed in for composting.

Due to COVID-19 and staff rotation requirements, Resource Recovery staff began assisting at the de-packager on a weekly basis. This was an unexpected but valuable training opportunity for outreach staff to see first-hand the materials coming into the facility and gain a better perspective to educate larger generators on how to implement a successful food waste recycling program. A peach recall was issued in August 2020 due to possible salmonella contamination, so the facility received over 300 tons of recalled peaches from all over the country.

In addition, considering the significant and immediate increased demands on the Food Bank for Monterey County’s services surrounding the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Board approved the purchase of a second 26 ft refrigerated food truck. The truck allowed the Food Bank to increase recovery and distribution of edible food to those residents in need within Monterey County and the surrounding communities, supporting the SB 1383 mandate to increase food rescue and edible food recovery programs.

Successes:

While 2020 brought several challenges to all of us due to Covid-19, we also faced the challenges associated with California’s mandate SB1383 organic diversion. SVR staff was hard at work preparing the organics facilities in 2019 and 2020 which included the Aerated Static Pile (ASP) compost pad and setting up the organic de-packager operation. In 2020-21 staff continued working on required infrastructure while also implementing cost saving measures to minimize impacts to agency but still end up with quality facilities.

SVR staff expanded the existing tipping pad by 1,000 sf and provided staff with a covered working area with minimize impacts associated with the south county winds and provide a shaded area for processing. The de-packager’s first full year of operation was a success. The operation was able to accept over 2,800 tons (5,600,000 lbs.) of organics destined for the landfill and able to divert 2,305 tons (4,610,000 lbs.) to be composted and returned to soil nutrients. The success of the program is only the start as SB1383 ramps up. SVR is ready to assist our member agencies with diversion of organic materials through our numerous programs being implemented at our facilities.
Composting Update:

For the past year, the ASP composting facility has been actively composting materials and in August 2020 produced its first batch of compost. The material was cured for an additional 60 days, screened, and tested before sale. In FY 2020-21, approximately 3,780 tons of finished compost were sold into local agricultural, landscaping, and retail markets.

The facility continues to accept yard debris or green waste, clean wood, food waste, de-packaged food and other organic feed stock materials. Beginning in December 2020, the facility also began accepting food waste from commercial customers from south county cities. The haulers collected the food waste using their green waste routes and delivered mixed loads to the compost facility. Approximately 30 commercial customers, including fast-food restaurants, coffee shops, markets and small grocery stores, and bakeries, subscribed to the initial pilot collection program.
A collaboration between the City of Gonzales, County of Monterey, and Salinas Valley Recycles was formed in 2018 to complete the reconstruction of the Gloria Road, Iverson Road, and Johnson Canyon Road Project. In 2020 the long-anticipated project finally took place and the results showed how collaboration between agencies can result in the improvement of public infrastructure and improving access to local businesses, agriculture lands, residential properties, and our regional landfill.

Gloria Road/Iverson/Johnson Canyon Road are the primary access routes for all franchise waste trucks and transfer station trucks entering and departing the Johnson Canyon Landfill. Prior to the project, the pavement on these roads were full of potholes and had failed because they were not designed to accommodate the large number of trucks traveling on them. Working together, the County, City of Gonzales, and SVR, along with the General Contractor, Granite Construction were able to reconstruct 5-miles of the collective roadways ahead of schedule despite Covid-19, summer heat waves, heavy smoke from the Dolan Fire, and the difficulty of getting some of the construction materials. The benefits from this three-way public agency partnership included: Cost-savings for the City of Gonzales’ section of Gloria Road because they were included in the larger County project. The City’s Public Works Director was able to serve as the Senior Project Manager, overseeing the preparation of construction documents and environmental clearances. The County issued the project for bid, administered the construction, and inspect the work, and worked from their field office, located in a City-owned building close to the construction site. Utilizing the full-depth reclamation approach for the reconstruction, the project minimized traffic disturbances, environmental impacts, and construction costs. Salinas Valley Recycles reviewed construction documents and contributed $2.3 million to the reconstruction ensuring that their commitment from their 2007 landfill expansion will be met. Due to the close coordination by the agencies, consultants, and Granite Construction, this major roadway project was completed in less than two years and a newly reconstructed Gloria Road/Iverson/Johnson Canyon Road is benefiting the communities and business who travel along these roadways.

The collaboration between the three agencies was also recognized by the Transportation Agency of Monterey County (TAMC) and awarded the Group Award for the successful partnership in completing the project ahead of schedule and under budget!
SVR is committed to communicating effectively with our customers. Highlights of our FY 2020-21 marketing campaign:

- SVR dedicated approximately half of our media budget to reach our Spanish speaking community.
- Promoted our services, sites, and sustainability through social media posts, engagements, and impressions.
- Published editorials and informational advertisements in the Monterey County Herald Quarterly Central Coast Agriculture section to reach those who are interested in the local Ag industry.
- Aired over 4,400 spots on streaming media and local English and Spanish TV and radio stations resulting in over 2 million impressions to viewers within our service area.

Radio spots ran for the
- Compost Challenge
- Tire Amnesty Events
- Holiday Tree Recycling
- SVR Cares

on Spanish: KLOK, KPRC; and (English) KDON, KOCN, KWAV, KCDU, KKHK and KHIP & KPRC

Television & Online Streaming:
- Resulted in over 3,000 click throughs to our website and over 550 thousand views of streaming video spots.

Clean & Green Yard Waste
- Billboard – Highway 101 in Soledad
- Media campaign on Spanish Broadcast, Streaming, Radio and Digital Media
- Print ad w/cycle of compost “farm-to-table-to-farm” graphic

Compost Challenge Campaign – January/February
- 2000 visits to the Challenge website while the ads ran in January and February!
- Gave 263 Compost Bins away over three challenge events!

Batteries/HHW – Fire prevention digital
- Over 1,000 views while the ad ran February through May

Tire Amnesty Campaigns (August, October, April/May)

Dear Wally Waste-Not, - Sustainability articles
- Tire Amnesty / Illegal Dumping
- Yard Waste Contamination/Climate impacts
- Crafty COVID Christmas
- Fall Food Waste Prevention
- Compost Challenge
- Batteries are HHW
- Is the Recycling System Broken?
- Need to Grow / Introverted Activist

Follow us online and stay connected on the lastest news!

Visit our website www.SalinasValleyRecycles.com to view SVR's newsletter or email us at info@svswa.org to be added to our distribution list.
SVR created Four composting Videos to Continue Composting Education Online

SVR created four educational composting videos to continue our composting education online to encourage and engage residents in the Salinas Valley to reduce food waste and yard waste at home by composting. Pre-pandemic, we hosted monthly in-person composting workshops. The backyard composting videos (English/Spanish) teach residents how to convert yard waste into nutrients-rich soil that acts as a method for carbon sequestration.

Backyard composting is a simple way to reduce your yard waste and food scraps into a nutrient-rich soil amendment and has many benefits for our community and the environment. Depending on how much work you put into your composting system, you can have finished compost in a few months. Or you can have a lazy passive compost pile that requires very little work on your part, but you will still have all the benefits. Organic waste does not mean food that was grown organically, organic waste is food scraps, green waste, landscape and pruning waste; basically, anything that was once alive. Diversion means to use material for a beneficial reuse instead of sending to the landfill.

Vermicomposting videos (English/Spanish) teaches residents how to compost using worms and it is also known as worm composting

Worms basically will eat leftover fruit, vegetables, and grains! They will happily turn it into some of the best fertilizer on earth. Worm compost is a fascinating, fun, and easy way to recycle your food scraps. A worm bin requires very little work, produces no offensive odors, and provides worm castings that help plants grow healthy. Compost worms are called “red worms” or “red wigglers” and they are different from the earthworms you normally find in the ground. Some of the benefits of composting with worms include: saves money on garbage bills, improves the fertility and water-holding capacity of garden soil, benefits the environment by recycling valuable organic materials, and helps to expand the life of our landfill space.

First Compost Challenge

After creating the videos, SVR launched our first online “Composting Challenge” to win a FREE compost bin for about two months. The only requirements to complete the challenge were that participants must live in our service area and must take the online composting quiz.

It was as easy as 1, 2, and 3:
1. Watch Both Composting Videos: Backyard & Vermicomposting
2. Take the Quiz and Sign the Compost Pledge
3. Pick up your New FREE Compost Bin
Second Compost Challenge

To celebrate 2021 Earth Day and composting awareness week, SVR opened a second “Earth Day Composting Challenge” for about three weeks where residents that could not complete the first challenge were able to participate to win the free compost bin.

Third Compost Challenge

Our third “South County Composting Challenge” opened for the month of June to coincide with the King City Beautification Event to open more opportunities for our south county residents to participate and to pick up the free compost bins at our King City Jolon Road Transfer Station. Our composting challenges had help us reach hundreds of people in our service area that are now composting at home. Composting at home reduces the food waste at our landfill.

Virtual Composting and Recycling Presentations

We conducted six recycling and composting presentations to continue our school education. The recycling and composting presentations to classrooms or groups provide an overview on how to recycle and compost right at the source, and the benefits. We conducted them virtually, via zoom. Some of these included: Echo Valley Elementary School, Lockwood 4-H Club, and Salinas library playing groups.

Gabilan Library Playing Groups

SVR partnered for the first time with the library playing groups and we are expecting to expand our partnership in the coming year. The playgroups help families nurture parent-child relations and help children to start learning how to read, learning by singing, playing and start developing skills to get them ready to succeed at school. Learning by playing supports social development by helping children interact with others, learn to share, and get along.
In-person recycling and composting presentations

Janna made our first in-person recycling and composting presentation to the Little Friends Preschool this year. SVR is invited every year during Earth Day to come to teach children how to recycle right at school and a brief introduction to home composting. Students have an opportunity to explore worm castings to look for the decomposers and learn the role they made to make an amazing soil amendment.

Beautification Week @ Natividad Park

SVR coordinated our first outdoor event to celebrate Earth Day and Composting Awareness Week. We partnered with City of Salinas, Local Urban Gardeners, Downtown Street Team, and the Monterey County to promote our services and to educate the public to care for the environment and the community. Agencies were promoting composting, recycling, illegal dumping prevention, hazardous waste information, cleanups, planting, and other services.

Online Tour of Landfill and Sun Street Transfer Station to FARMS Leadership Program

SVR has been partnering with the FARMS Leadership program to teach students about food waste at the landfill, how to reduce your organic waste by home composting, and providing a tour of our facilities: Landfill and Sun Street Transfer Station to learn the importance of diverting waste from the landfill. Students get surprised that garbage from the home, work, and school goes directly to the landfill to be buried, and they become aware of the importance of reducing waste at the source. They love to learn how the decomposers make the best fertilizer turning kitchen scraps into soil. Students expressed the experience as a highlight of participating in the FARMS program. We participated in a second presentation for FARMS Advanced students, in which we delved deeper into career exploration.

Food Waste and Recycling Award

SVR opened for the first time our Food Waste & Recycling Award for non-profit organizations, school districts, central kitchens, or public entities that collect, generate food, and/or distribute food to families in need and charities in SVR’s service area. The award will help with the implementation and/or enhancement of diversion programs depending on the waste generated at a facility in the form of food waste, packaged food, edible food rescue, yard waste, and recycling to comply with the State recycling and organics reduction laws.

Rancho Cielo applied for the Food Waste and Recycling award program, they were our only participants for this year’s award program, and they completed all the award requirements. By enhancing and implementing diversion programs, they reduced their garbage by two cubic yards per week and increased recycling by more than eight cubic yards per week. Recycling was implemented/enhanced in the new classrooms, offices, housing, and common areas. SVR provided indoor recycling bins for all the areas needed. The yard waste program was increased by 86-gallon to divert more yard waste around the facility. The food waste program was implemented to divert food scraps from the restaurant and eating areas around campus. SVR provided all the indoor food waste bins. Even though they implemented more diversion programs, they saved money on disposal costs.

Rancho Cielo also created a sustainable policy to keep reducing waste campus-wide and continue educating employees, students, residents, and guests on reducing, reusing, recycling, and compost for a healthier campus and community.
**Tours**

SVR created THREE virtual tour videos: Johnson Canyon Landfill (16:35 min), Sun Street Transfer Station (13:30 min), & Johnson Canyon Landfill for children (8:13 min).

Virtual tours continue our landfill and transfer station education to schools, community groups, and the general public. Participants have an opportunity to learn about our services and virtually visit our locations:

1. Recycling centers
2. Understand how garbage is buried at the landfill
3. Learn how yard waste is processed to become a soil amendment and a variety of mulches and wood chips
4. What happens to construction and demolition materials
5. See our state-of-the-art composting area (Aerated Static Pile Compost System)
6. Learn how we separate packaged food waste to recover the organic material and turn it into composting
7. Learn about the waste to energy facility (landfill tour only)
8. Visit the ABOP (Antifreeze, Battery, Oil, and Paint) collection station
9. See the hazardous waste collection facility and much more

SVR also created EIGHT short video clips of the landfill to use as an educational outreach tool to highlight each of our services and programs: ABOP, Aerated Static Pile, Organic Operation, De-packager, Landfill Gas to Energy, Landfill Module, and Material Recovery Center.

**Janitorial training video (English/Spanish)**

(4:50 min)

SVR created TWO training videos for Janitorial staff to teach them how to separate recycling and food waste inside the buildings, how to separate yard waste, and how to dispose of it in the proper collection bins outdoor in the garbage areas. Anything that you throw into a garbage bin goes straight to the landfill to be buried. But anything you put in the recycling cart or dumpster gets sent to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) for further processing. State laws AB 939 and 341 mandate that we must recycle, and AB 1828 and SB 1383 state laws mandate to recycle all organic material and have recycling programs in place at work, home and schools. Janitorial staff is the key to having a successful recycling program.

Visit our YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/users/SVSWA831
Two Organic Food Waste Presentation - English (4:43min) / Spanish (6:16min)

SVR created two video presentations to continue providing education to reduce/recycle food waste at businesses, multifamily complexes, or public entities that generate food waste. We also provide information on how we managed the current food waste at our state-of-the-art composting operation and how our agency can help you meet the state organic regulations. We provided a brief overview of the acceptable and not acceptable food waste materials in the food waste program. Also, we provide information on how we can help them set up a successful food waste program by doing an audit and providing some of the indoor food waste bins.

Two Recycling Presentations - English (4:43min) / Spanish (6:16min)

SVR created two video presentations to continue the recycling education people in our service area. We provide the latest information on how to recycle right at home, school, and work to encourage people to recycle right at the source to reduce the waste that goes to the landfill. Recyclables should be collected loose and clean. We also provide information on how the hauler takes and process the recyclables. A Materials Recovery Facility, or MRF, is a large state-of-the-art facility where all the recycling is processed machines (conveyor belts, magnets, screens), and workers sort the materials by type and grade and pull out any contaminants.

SVR developed an online mini course educational series for schools and the general public

The online educational resources series was developed for all ages to continue our Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Compost, Food Waste and Green Careers education, and can be utilized by parents, teachers, and/or even kids.

What does SVR do? (12:40 min)

The public will learn about what services our agency offers to the community. We provide a brief overview on various topics such as our governmental body and member agencies, open and closed landfills, transfer stations, how modern landfills are built, how to recycle right, state-of-the-art composting operation, our de-packager operation that recovers food waste from their packaging, free bulky items disposal, special waste, outreach and education to divert waste properly at source and programs, and much more.

Waste vs. Resource (10:54 min)

Public will learn about the difference between waste and resources. In order for the public to reduce the amount of trash sent to the landfill we must first know what is considered waste and what is a resource. We also showcase our newest waste characterization Report that breaks down data about what is in our local waste stream and what could be recovered and repurposed. We provide recommendations to reduce the waste before it goes to the landfill by rethinking, refusing, reducing, reusing, recycling, rebuying, and composting.
Recycle Right (11:42 min)
The public will learn about recycling and how to recycle right. The importance of recycling at source, why recycle, what to recycle, recycling programs at schools, and how to meet the mandated recycling State laws AB 939 and 341. We will give you a brief introduction of the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) where all of the recyclable material is brought to be sorted and then sold to make new products. A Materials Recovery Facility, or MRF, is a large state-of-the-art facility where all the recycling is processed. Machines (conveyor belts, magnets, screens) and workers sort the materials by type and grade and pull out any contaminants.

Compost (10:02 min)
The public will learn about “organic waste” and why it is important to divert it from the landfill. We introduce you to Wally’s new friends Rip & Rot. You get to see our new de-packaging facility and Aerated Static Pile for Composting. We provide an in-depth introduction about compost and how you can create your own backyard compost. You will become familiar with common terms and what you can put into the pile as well as what you cannot include.

Compost & critters (15:06 min)
The public will learn about Vermicompost and other decomposers that help make a soil amendment called compost. You can learn how to setup a worm bin and what you can feed the worms as well as what you cannot feed them. We go a little more in depth into some of the science like Red Wiggler Anatomy, food webs, and have a fun guessing game activity at the end.

Careers in the Waste Industry (13:35 min)
In this video you can catch a glimpse into the types of jobs you can find in the waste industry. We provide a brief overview that includes basic job duties, educational background or experience needed, and average salaries in California for over 20 of some of the most common jobs. There is a perfect fit for you whether you like to be out in the field doing hands on labor or like to be in the office. Who knows, it may inspire you to enter the wonderful world of waste as Green jobs become more in demand.

W.O.R.M Recognition Awards
SVR recognized two people for their outstanding worm composting system at home. Luis Alcala is a 5th-grade student at Frank Ledesma School in Soledad that started composting right after a composting presentation done by our staff for the after-school program that he was participating in. He has been composting at his apartment for about two years. Harriet Stevens started composting about three years ago and learned that SVR hosts composting workshops, and she attended multiple composting workshops to grow her knowledge to expand her composting system at home. Now, she is a great advocate that shares her knowledge with others in the community.
SVR Hosted Virtual Film Screenings and Discussions
The Story of Plastic

SVR hosted a free virtual screening of The Story of Plastic and had a community discussion after the viewing to explore what agencies and individuals can do to push more significant changes away from our plastic dependence. The documentary shows the ugly truth behind the global plastic pollution crisis while flattening the curve from home.

The Need to Grow

SVR hosted a free movie event to celebrate International Compost Awareness week. We kicked off the week with a live virtual community panelist discussion with local composters that shared what they are doing locally to help restore the earth. The Need to Grow is an epic story of solutions and the struggle to implement practices that help build soil health. "It will make you laugh, make you cry, give you chills, and inspire you to participate in the restoration of the Earth."

Kiss the Ground

SVR partnered with Sustainable Salinas to host the Kiss the Ground virtual film screening and discussion. Panelists shared about programs they have implemented to help regenerate the soil like building a state-of-the-art large composting operation that accepts yard waste, and food waste, the benefits of composting at home, building and having access to community gardens. Kiss the Ground is a documentary film about how we can regenerate our soils and sequester carbon to reverse the effects of climate change.

New Educational Brochures
Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling - SB 1383, AB 1826, & AB 827

SVR designed a new brochure to continue the education to businesses, multifamily complexes, and public entities in regards with the organic recycling mandates SB 1383, AB 1826, and AB 827. The brochure provides information of the requirements laws, how to comply with, the benefits of implement the diversion program, and how SVR can help them to implement a successful organic program.

SVR provides free waste assessment training to educate employees about program and provide free internal containers for collection.

De-packager Brochure

SVR designed a new de-packager brochure to provide information on how to divert packaged food waste from small and large-scale food or agricultural producers and processors. Packaged food poses a challenge to recovering the organic materials for composting. To meet this challenge, we invested in a de-packaging system to separate the packaging from the organic or food materials. The packaged material is then loaded into the hopper and the rotating conveyor feeds the packaged product into the separation chamber where the organic matter is freed from its packaging, and it is chopped into a slurry than we can add it to our composting system.

2020 Soledad Chamber of Commerce Annual Christmas Parade

SVR participated in the 2020 Soledad Annual Christmas Parade of Lights. It was the first parade event during the pandemic that our staff participated in. It was great to see all the floats, agencies, and organization mascots come together for the parade. Wally our mascot took a picture with Santa.
Garden Renovation Projects

SVR did a lot of renovation projects in the garden to prepare for our tours. Most of the art at the garden had some damage and it was restored. We also added new art and Mike Silva built our new worm bin from wood scrap collected from our large clean wood waste pile. Our new worm bin is now installed at the garden to continue making worm casting and raising worms to share with the community.

THINK ABOUT UPCYCLING BEFORE YOU TOSS THAT “TREASURE” INTO YOUR RECYCLING BIN

Author: Unknown

MONTEREY MUSHROOMS RECYCLING RECOGNITION
Royal Oaks Facility, Weekly Production of 750,000 Pounds of Mushrooms

Coordinated Effort to Implement a Sustainable Recycling Program

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<th>RSF</th>
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<td>Organic Waste</td>
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<td>Office Waste</td>
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<td>Recycling</td>
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<td>Organics</td>
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IMPLEMENTED CHANGES TO WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

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<tr>
<td>Garbage</td>
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<td>50 Cans/Year</td>
<td>30 Cans/Year</td>
<td>50 Cans/Year</td>
<td>100 Cans/Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>50 Cans/Year</td>
<td>50 Cans/Year</td>
<td>50 Cans/Year</td>
<td>30 Cans/Year</td>
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Organic Mushroom Waste Pilot Project

Why Monterey Mushroom’s Implemented Diversion Programs?

AB 351 and 927

Mushroom Loads at the De-packager

Thank you, Monterey Mushroom for Implementing Sustainable Practices!
Recycling Services

Separate your load and save!
Save time and money by pre-sorting your load. All of our facilities accept the following items for free.

Free Recycling Accepted from Residents and Businesses.

- Cardboard
- Cellphones
- Computers, keyboards, and printers
- Copiers, facsimile (fax) machines
- Television and Computer Monitors
- Kitchen Appliances: washers, dryers, stoves, etc.
- Metal
- Rigid Plastics
- Glass (bottles and jars)
- Aluminum
- Paper (newspaper, office paper, etc.)
- Water Heaters, and more

Household Hazardous Waste items are accepted at our facility in Salinas and Antifreeze, Batteries, Oil & Paint (ABOP) materials are accepted at all our locations for free.

Locations:
Sun Street Transfer Station
Johnson Canyon Landfill
Jolon Road Transfer Station
(See Household Hazardous Waste Section for more information.)

Sharps Collection Program
Residents can exchange full approved Sharps (needles, lancets, etc.) containers for new containers at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF) in Salinas for free. Participation in the Sharps Collection Program has remained steady. Last year approximately 2,879 pounds of sharps were collected at SVR.

Mattress Recycling Program
Unfortunately, mattresses are a common item found illegally dumped along roadsides. Salinas Valley residents can drop off 5 or fewer mattresses or box springs at any of our three locations for free. Over 16,479 mattresses and box springs were recycled last year at our three facilities. Commercial/ Businesses are charged $5.00 for each mattress or box spring.

Carpet Recycling Program - Bring in Your Old Carpet!
Carpet is a bulky item that doesn’t break down in the landfill, takes up space, and can be difficult to bury. SVR’s Sun Street Transfer Station is an approved CARE— Carpet America Recovery Effort facility. CARE is an Extended Producer Responsibility program established by AB 2396, administered by CalRecycle, and CARE is the California carpet stewardship organization. Carpet must be separated, dry, and rolled. Only plush carpet and foam or re-bond padding are accepted for recycling. Carpet should be free of trash or scraps.

E-Waste Collection Program
Residents and businesses in the Salinas Valley can drop off electronic waste (e-waste) at any of our three locations for free. E-waste includes TVs, computers, monitors, laptops, printers, cell phones, etc. Last year approximately 296,257 pounds of e-waste were collected at SVR.

Household Batteries
Residents can drop off used batteries for free at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF) in Salinas and various locations throughout the Salinas Valley (libraries, hardware stores, etc.). Last year a total of 20,785 pounds of household batteries were collected at the Sun Street Transfer Station, Johnson Canyon Landfill, and Jolon Road Transfer Station.

Tire Recycling Program
CalRecycle Grant funds help to educate residents about proper tire disposal and to host free used tire collection events. During the events, residents can bring up to nine (9) tires free of charge at any of our three facilities. Last year, 33,915 tires were recycled during three collection events.

For more information on our services, please call (831) 775-3000 or visit www.SalinasValleyRecycles.org
In 1976, Congress passed the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) mandating the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop and implement a program to protect human health and the environment. It gives the EPA the authority to control hazardous waste from cradle to grave. This includes specific rules and standards for storing, handling, and disposing of household hazardous waste.

Many common household products are hazardous. If these products are handled or disposed of incorrectly, they can pose a threat to human health, animals and harm our water and soil when not disposed of properly.

In California, it is illegal to dispose of household hazardous waste in the trash, down the drain or by abandonment.

Household Hazardous Waste includes household chemicals which the owner no longer has a use for.

Some very common household items are categorized as household hazardous waste including fluorescent bulbs, paint, motor oil, batteries, drain cleaner, pool chemicals, old propane tanks, and pest control. This isn’t a complete list but some of the most common. Some of these products exhibit many of the same dangerous characteristics as fully regulated household waste due to their potential for reactivity, ignitability, corrosivity and toxicity.

More and more materials are prohibited from being disposed of in the landfill. SVR provides numerous opportunities for the public to manage their hazardous waste in an appropriate manner.

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility will accept:

- Aerosols
- Antifreeze (ABOP)
- Auto & Furniture Polish
- Chemical & Drain Cleaner
- Cooking Oil
- Electronic Waste, TVs, Computers, Cellphones, etc.
- Fluorescent Bulbs & Tubes
- Household & Automotive Batteries (ABOP)
- Household Cleaners
- Latex Paint (ABOP)
- Needles & Syringes (in approved containers)
- Paint & Paint Thinners
- Pesticides & Fertilizers
- Pool & Hobby-Supplies
- Thermometers, Thermostats, & other items that contain mercury
- Used Motor Oil & Filters (ABOP)
- Wood Preservatives

Bring your Household Hazardous Waste to the Sun Street Transfer Station Collection Facility. Johnson Canyon Landfill and Jolon Transfer Station only accept ABOP (Antifreeze, Batteries, Oil & Paint).

For Residents: A maximum of 14 gallons or 125 lbs. of hazardous waste per household is accepted every 30 days for free. Proof of residency, such as a driver’s license or a utility bill is required.

For Businesses: A maximum of 25 gallons or 200 lbs. per month is accepted for a fee. Businesses must make an appointment.

Total Pounds Collected 1,403,053
New and Innovative Technologies

SVR has a long track record of supporting and evaluating new and innovative technologies to expand waste recovery, create jobs, expand non-landfill revenue streams and move closer to our Mission of reducing our dependence on landfills. A few of the projects under review and consideration include:

- The Clean Fiber and Organics Recovery System (CFORS) offered by Global Organics Energy (GOE) has been a long-standing SVR Research and Development project started in 2006 in partnership with the Board’s Conversion Technology Commission, USDA and the original technology developer CR3. GOE (owner of the CR3 patents and technology) is in the final stages of securing corporate and venture capital partnership funding for the next phase of the project, a commercial scale pilot demonstration. SVR has no financial obligation other than hosting the project demonstration and supplying waste for the design and engineering trials.

- A medium scale solar energy project with battery storage is under development with our partner ISM Solar for the Crazy Horse Landfill (CHLF). CHLF is still a Federal listed Superfund Site associated with past disposal practices prior to SVR formation and is an excellent candidate for a “Brownfield” project designed to rehabilitate and repurpose old industrial or other environmentally impacted properties. The project could include up to 10MW of solar arrays and associated battery storage to allow distribution of electricity during peak (and higher valued) evening hours.

- SVR in partnership with the City of Gonzales and our landfill gas energy plant operator (Ameresco) are discussing potential energy or landfill gas deliveries to the City of Gonzales’ proposed new microgrid system. Included in this project is the opportunity to add anaerobic digestion of source separate agricultural culls and other organic wastes to increase the energy output beyond just landfill gas and benefit our SB 1383 organics diversion efforts in the region. Microgrid development is necessary for Gonzales to provide sustainable, locally generated energy for expansion of its industrial park and to support the City’s business growth efforts.

- SVR is reviewing an opportunity to address the long-standing problem with agricultural plastics that cannot be easily or economically recycled, through a project that creates transportation fuels from the waste plastics. Members of the Ag industry have shown strong support for such a local project and are participating in its possible development.

- SVR continues to work with USDA researchers to support new technologies and demonstrations for organic based products and services to support improved agricultural and municipal waste management practices.

SVR will continue to strive for excellence in waste prevention, resource recovery, and waste disposal.
Salinas Valley Recycles is a public agency and utility service that owns and operates the only open and active landfill in the Salinas Valley.

SVR maintains the lowest per capita cost for delivery of recycling and solid waste services in the region, even with 15% of the budget going towards maintaining three closed landfills ("legacy liabilities").
Hi Cesar,
Thank you for sending the requested proof for the destruction of the ballistic panels, and with your help with all of this. And, please extend my appreciation to your team, for a job well done!!
Your team with today's process of the destruction of the ballistic panels was on point from the moment we arrived, and throughout the whole process. I expected to be their longer, and it was the opposite. I was very much impressed on how well organized this was- They ROCK!!

Thank you,
Angelica Ruelas
Management Analyst - Safety & DOT Coordinator
County of Monterey | CAO, Fleet Management

Hi Janna,
Wanted to say thank you for the compost bin, it's awesome!! We actually had a family friend swing by and she wants one for herself! I was wondering if you are still doing the challenge so that she could watch the video and take the quiz and get one for herself? Please let me know. Thanks again!!

Best,
Bryce Umbarger
University of California, Davis

This was a breeze. The staff we spoke to was very helpful. We got our van weighed and paid $17 and basically just dumped everything at this one spot, except for the tires, we had to put it elsewhere. Will def go here again if we need to next time.

Agnes D.
San Jose, CA

Went Saturday at 11:00, long lines but moved fairly quickly. Gets congested once inside but employees keep cars moving. Thankful I could drop off a mattress, Microwave, and cooktop off all at no charge.

Lei Sei
Fast, friendly service, price was very decent, and everything seems to be in order. Can not really ask from a public dump yard. Tomas Kh.

Dear Ms. Ruiz & Mrs. Gutierrez,
I hope you're well! I am Valeria Tinoco attending Gonzales High School from the Farm Leadership Program. I enjoy taking care of my own worm farm. Thank you for providing this to us! I appreciate your time when teaching us about the Salinas Valley Recycles. I learned a lot more and enjoy having my own worm farm. I am glad that even though we are distance learning, you helped it be possible for the program to continue. Again, thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Valeria Tinoco

Dear Darlene & Estela,
I hope you are doing well. My name is Anahí Benavides from Gonzales High School. I am currently a junior this year and a part of the Farm Leadership Program. This letter is to show my appreciation towards your time and effort of demonstrating recycling and compost for environmental. I really enjoyed the activity of organic compost in the kits we received as well as the tour. When receiving this kit, I was able to become a small worm farmer, where I can feed my worms by giving them left over vegetables. In the tour, I was able to see how several items can be used and recycled for another purpose such as the bath tub used for plants. I was also able to see the different "stations" where different types of waste is separated. I strongly appreciate your time as well as your job. I believe that your job makes a difference for the environment and our community. Once again, thank you!

Sincerely,
Anahí Benavides

Dear Estela,
We kicked off our 2020 fall program with an amazing field day with Salinas Valley Recycles. Students and teachers always enjoy your field days. Thank you for helping us through such a challenging year.

- Leticia Hernandez

Thank you for the composter! I'm excited to teach my mom to divert her food waste and create good dirt!

-Julie Ahetye Yee