

**Baker County Consolidated Solid Waste  
Management Plan  
2006-2017**



**Prepared with assistance from:  
The Southwest Georgia Regional Development Center for Baker County  
and the City of Newton**

<b>Chapter 1. Introduction</b>	
1.1 Background Information	p. 4
1.2 Purpose of the Plan	p. 4
1.3 Physical Characteristics	p. 4
<b>Chapter 2. Waste Stream Analysis</b>	
2.1 Purpose of the Chapter	p. 7
2.2 Total Annual Tonnages	p. 7
2.3 Waste Stream Components	p. 7
2.4 Value of Recycled Goods	p. 8
2.5 Waste Stream Sampling	p. 9
2.6 Projected Population Increase	p. 10
2.7 Projected Annual Tonnages	p. 11
<b>Chapter 3. Waste Reduction</b>	
3.1 Purpose of the Chapter	p. 12
3.2 State Goals and Trends	p. 12
3.3 State Tipping Fees	p. 13
3.4 Inventory and Assessment of Existing Programs	p. 13
3.5 Needs and Goals of Current Programs	p. 14
<b>Chapter 4. Waste Collection</b>	
4.1 Purpose of the Chapter	p. 15
4.2 Inventory and Assessment of Existing Programs	p. 15
4.3 Needs and Goals of Current Programs	p. 15
4.4 Illegal Dumping and Littering	p. 16
4.5 Contingency Strategy	p. 16
<b>Chapter 5. Disposal</b>	
5.1 Purpose of the Chapter	p. 18
5.2 Inventory and Assessment	p. 18
5.3 Needs and Goals	p. 19
5.4 Contingency Strategy	p. 19
<b>Chapter 6. Land Limitation</b>	
6.1 Purpose of the Chapter	p. 20
6.2 Limitations for Siting Solid Waste Handling Facilities	p. 20
6.3 Written Statement of Consistency	p. 21
6.4 Host Fee	p. 22
6.5 Needs and Goals	p. 22
<b>Chapter 7. Public Education and Involvement</b>	
7.1 Purpose of the Chapter	p. 23
7.2 Inventory and Assessment of Existing Programs	p. 23
7.3 Programs and Agencies Available to Local Governments	p. 23
7.4 Needs and Goals	p. 23

## **Chapter 8. Implementation Strategy**

<b>8.1 Purpose of the Chapter</b>	<b>p. 25</b>
<b>8.2 Financing Options</b>	<b>p. 25</b>
<b>8.3 Short Term Work Program</b>	<b>p. 27</b>

## **Appendix**

<b>Land Limitation Map</b>	<b>p. 28</b>
<b>List of Additional Haulers</b>	<b>p. 29</b>
<b>Capacity Assurance Letter</b>	<b>p. 30</b>
<b>Resolutions</b>	<b>p. 31</b>

## **List of Maps, Graphs and Tables**

<b>Baker County Plantations Map</b>	<b>p. 4</b>
<b>Baker County Map</b>	<b>p. 5</b>
<b>Baker County Employment Graph</b>	<b>p. 6</b>
<b>Newton Employment Graph</b>	<b>p. 6</b>
<b>Total Annual Tonnage Table</b>	<b>p. 7</b>
<b>Waste Stream Component Table</b>	<b>p. 7</b>
<b>Value of Recyclable Materials Table</b>	<b>p. 8</b>
<b>Waste Composition Graph</b>	<b>p. 10</b>
<b>Projected Population Increase Graph</b>	<b>p. 10</b>
<b>Projected Annual Tonnages Table</b>	<b>p. 11</b>
<b>Per-Capita Waste Disposal Graph</b>	<b>p. 12</b>
<b>Georgia Landfills Map</b>	<b>p. 18</b>
<b>State Tipping Fees Map</b>	<b>p. 19</b>
<b>Land Limitation Maps</b>	<b>p. 28</b>

# 1. CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background Information

This is a multi-jurisdictional Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan for Baker County and the City of Newton. The plan is intended to meet the revised Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures established by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). This plan was originally adopted in September 2006 before the original due date of October 2006. The readoption of this plan is a DCA requirement to allow the solid waste plans to align with the new planning schedule. Changes to the 2006 plan are updated projected population and tonnages through 2007, and a new Capacity Assurance Letter through 2017. It addresses the five core planning elements specified by the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures, including:

- Waste Reduction
- Collection
- Disposal
- Land Limitation
- Education and Public Involvement

The plan also includes a waste disposal stream analysis and implementation schedule.

## 1.2 Purpose of the Plan

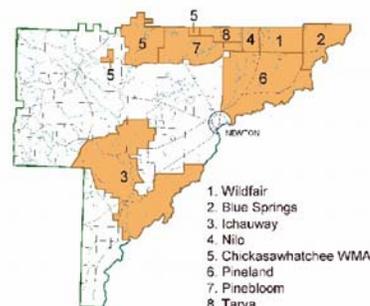
The purpose of the plan is to:

- Ensure that there are adequate collection systems in the County.
- Inventory existing programs.
- Identify needs and goals.
- Ensure that solid waste management plans provide for 10 years of disposal capacity.
- Provide for the protection of the environment.
- Provide guidance to local governments.
- Encourage the reduction, reuse and recycling of solid waste.

## 1.3 Physical Characteristics

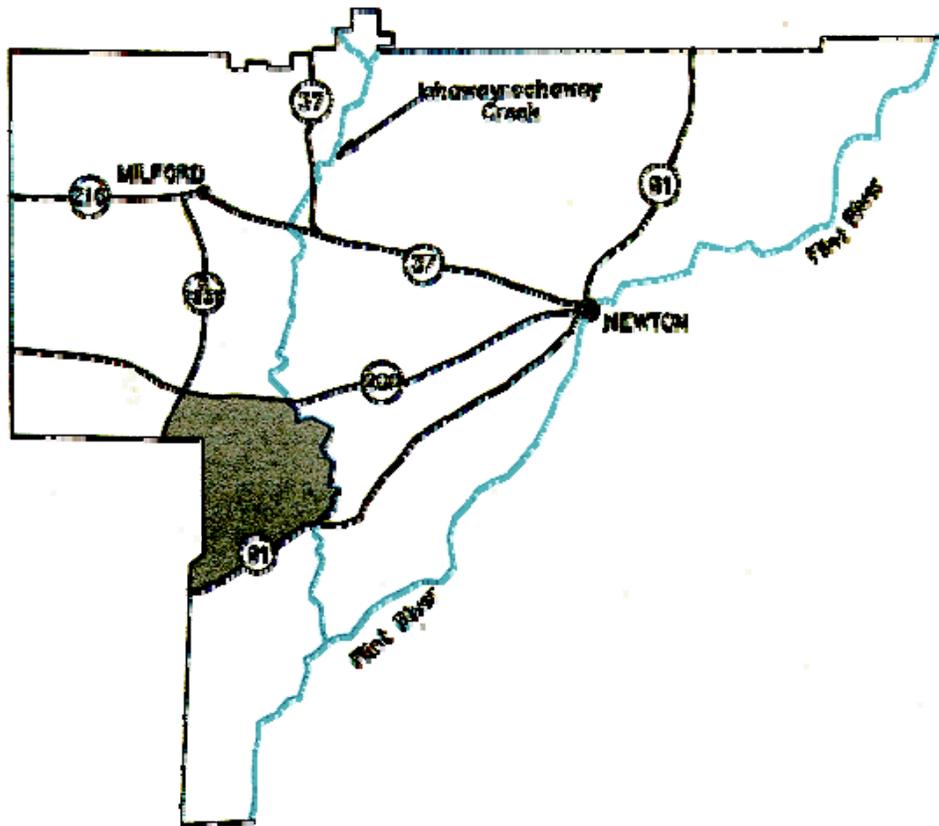
Baker County is located in Southwest Georgia with a land area of 343 square miles. It is predominantly rural in character, with gently rolling terrain dotted with farms and wooded areas. Baker County's estimated population in 2003 was 4,242 people living in 1,514 households. Newton is the only incorporated area, with 851 people living in 345 households. The predominant land use in Baker County is agricultural/forestry.

Approximately 169,773 acres (77 percent) of the county's area is forested or used for farming. of the county's area is privately owned plantation land seen in the shaded area of map below.



of the  
Much  
the

# Baker County, Georgia

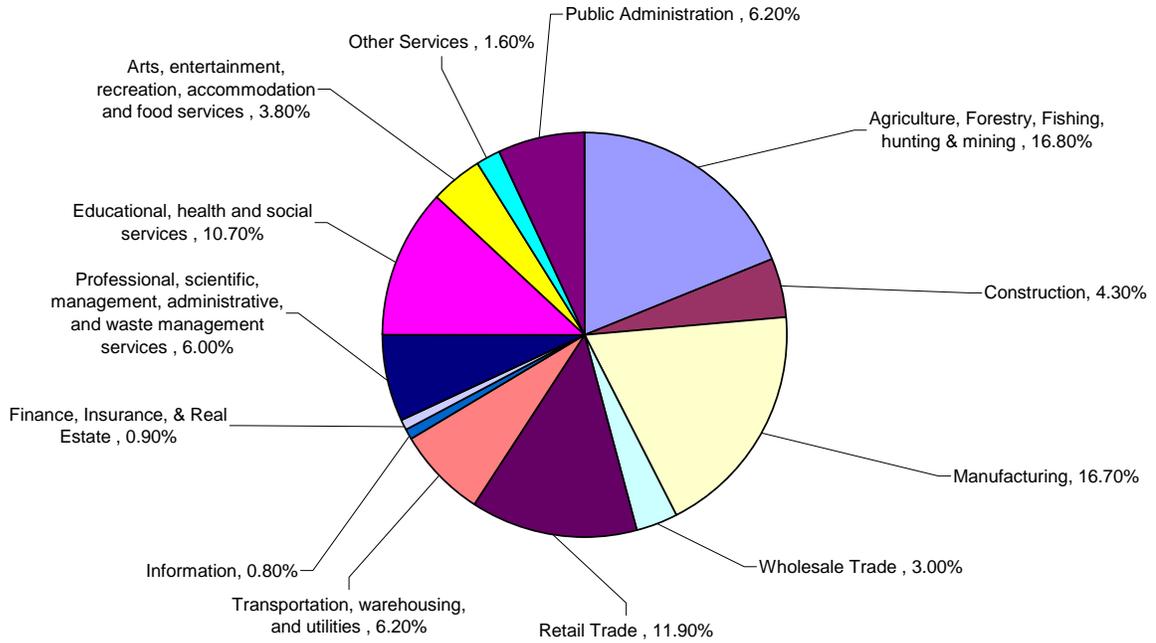


## Shading Key

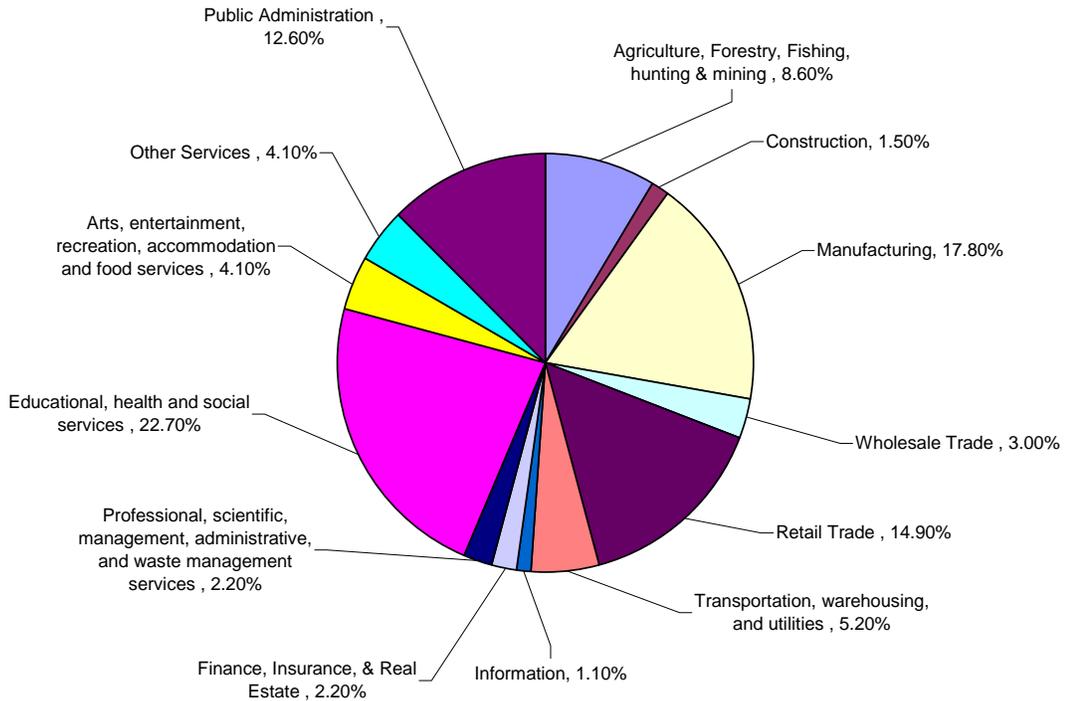
 Pondherry, *Lindera mollicifolia* (Lauraceae, the laurel family). Within the shaded area shown on the map, use limitations only apply to the margins of Utracink depression ponds.

Based on the 2000 United States Census data, the largest employers in the county by type are illustrated in the two employment pie graphs below:

### Baker County Employment



### Newton Employment



## 2. CHAPTER TWO WASTE STREAM ANALYSIS

### 2.1 Purpose of the Chapter

The purpose of this chapter is to determine the amount and composition of solid waste generated within the county for the 10-year planning period.

The following Waste Disposal Stream Analysis was completed using information from the 2000 United States Census and the state waste characterization study prepared by consultant R.W. Beck and provided by the DCA. An average of data from the South Georgia and the Lower Chattahoochee regions was used to characterize the waste stream. The value of 6.5 pounds per-person per-day was used to estimate waste stream amounts.

### 2.2 TOTAL ANNUAL TONNAGES

AREA	POPULATION	%OF TOTAL POPULATION	TOTAL TONNAGE
NEWTON	841	20%	998
BAKER COUNTY UNINCORPORATED	3,366	80%	3,993
BAKER COUNTY TOTAL AREA	4,207	100%	4,991

(Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding)

### 2.3 ESTIMATIONS OF MATERIALS GENERATED IN THE MUNICIPAL WASTE STREAM: 2006

Material	Percent of Total	Tons
Paper and Paperboard	35 %	1,747
Organic	28%	1,397
Plastic	16%	799
Construction/Demolition	9%	449
Metal	6%	299
Glass	4%	200
Inorganic	2%	100
Total	100%	4,991

(Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding)

**Paper and paperboard**, comprising 35% of the waste stream, is the largest single component by a considerable margin. Efforts to reduce the per-capita contribution to the area’s waste should concentrate on the reduction of paper in the waste stream and encouraging residents to recycle paper. There is a huge market for paper in the State of Georgia’s paper mills (15 of the State’s mills use recycled fiber and 9 of the mills use 100% recycled fiber). For every ton of paper recycled, 17 trees are saved. Making paper from recycled fiber also uses 80% less water, uses 65% less energy, and produces 95% less air pollution than making paper from virgin trees. It also saves three cubic yards of landfill space.

**Organic**, the second largest component, at 28% of the waste stream, is comprised of materials such as wood, food wastes, yard waste, diapers and textiles. Together paper and organic represent nearly two-thirds of all waste disposed. To decrease the amount of organic material in the waste stream, home composting of yard wastes by Baker County residents should be encouraged.

**The remaining one-third** (approximately) of the waste stream is 16% plastic, 6% metal and 9% construction- which includes lumber, drywall and roofing shingles, 4% glass, and 2% inorganic. Inorganic includes items such as tires, and electronics such as televisions and computers. Plastic is another valuable recyclable important to a significant Georgia business. For instance, plastic beverage containers can be made into carpet. The carpet industry in Georgia is one of the State’s largest employers and the largest end-user of recycled soda bottles in the nation. Georgians pay roughly 90 million dollars each year to discard recyclable materials that are worth about 250 million dollars to Georgia industries.

The following table shows the value of a few of the more easily recycled components of the waste stream in Baker County and their market value at the time this plan was written. The Global Recycling Network (GRN) website <http://www.grn.com> provides updated prices for a wide variety of recyclables.

#### 2.4 Value of Recyclable Materials

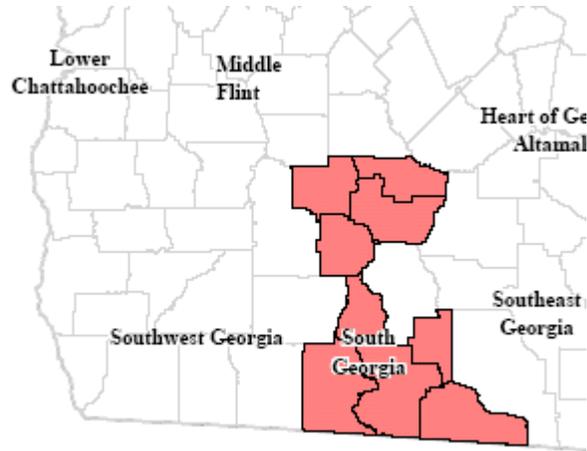
Material	% of Waste Stream	Amount in Waste Stream	Unit Value	Value
Paper	35 %	1,747 tons	\$60/ ton	\$104,820
Aluminum Cans	.85 %	42 tons	\$.58/pound	\$48,720
#1 Plastic	1.43 %	71 tons	\$.20/pound	\$28,400
#2 Plastic	1.1%	55 tons	\$.15/pound	\$16,500

The value of the paper and beverage container portion of the waste stream in Baker County for one year is roughly \$198,440.

## 2.5 Waste Stream Sampling

The Department of Community Affairs contracted with a private consulting firm, R.W. Beck, to complete the statewide waste characterization study, the results of which were shared publicly in August 2005. Unfortunately, due to budget constraints, a study for the Southwest Georgia region was not conducted. The waste stream analysis for this plan uses an average of data for the South Georgia region and the Lower Chattahoochee region.

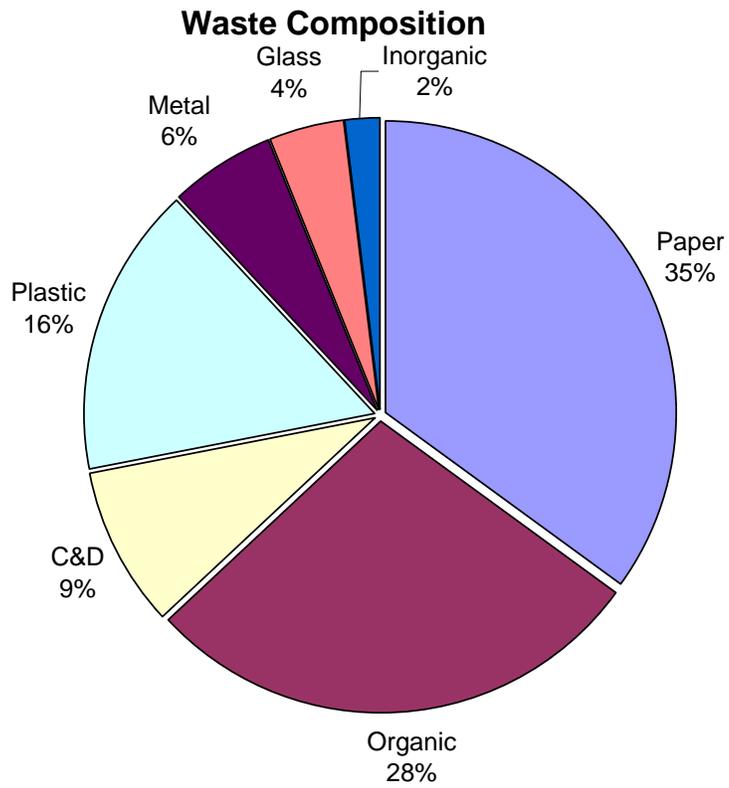
The South Georgia region includes Ben Hill, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Tift, and Turner counties



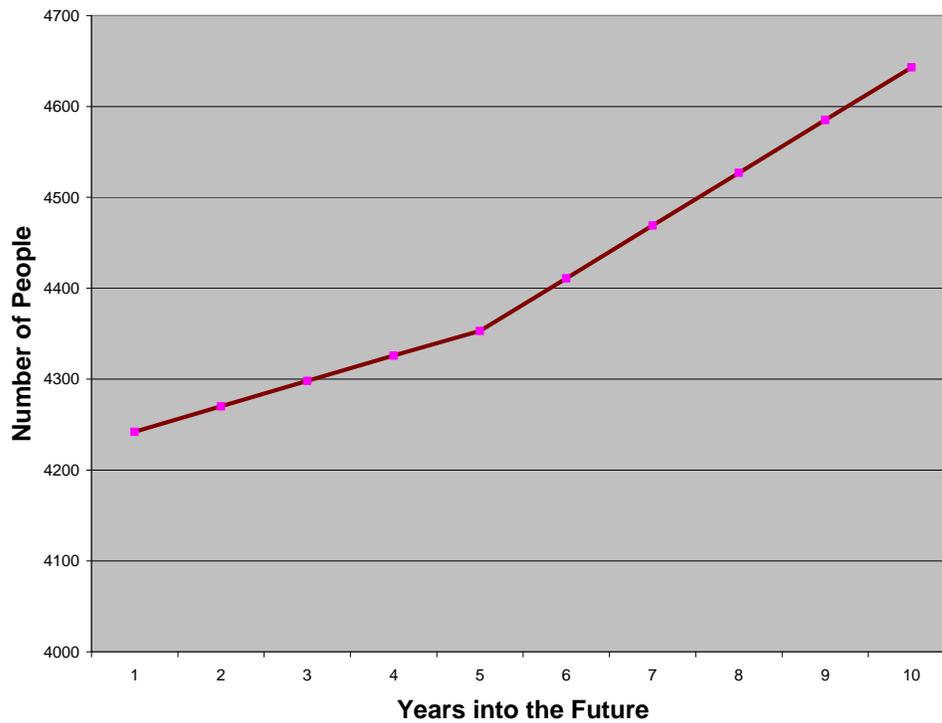
The Lower Chattahoochee Region includes Chattahoochee, Clay, Harris, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Stewart, and Talbot counties.



Waste stream data for the county is summarized in the pie graph below.



### Baker County Projected Population Increase



<b>2.7 PROJECTED ANNUAL TONNAGES</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Annual Tonnage</b>
<b>2005</b>	4,242	5,032
<b>2006</b>	4,270	5,065
<b>2007</b>	4,298	5,099
<b>2008</b>	4,326	5,132
<b>2009</b>	4,353	5,164
<b>2010</b>	4,411	5,233
<b>2011</b>	4,469	5,301
<b>2012</b>	4,527	5,370
<b>2013</b>	4,585	5,439
<b>2014</b>	4,643	5,508
<b>2015</b>	4,661	5,529
<b>2016</b>	4,706	5,582
<b>2017</b>	4,751	5,636

### 3. CHAPTER THREE WASTE REDUCTION

#### 3.1 Purpose of the Chapter

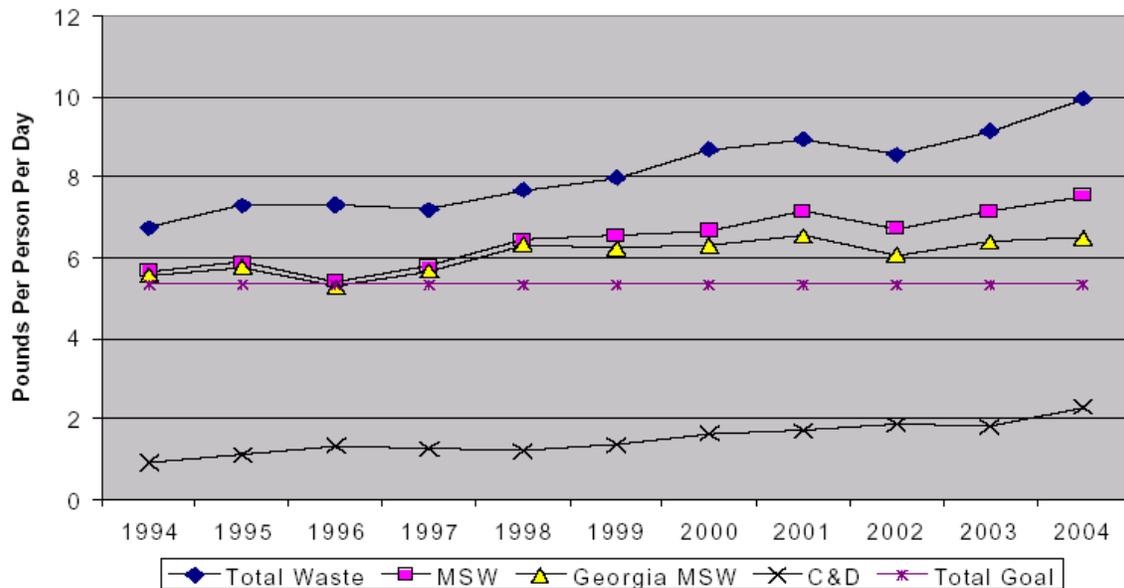
The purpose of this chapter is to ensure that programs are in effect to reduce the per-capita production of municipal solid waste.

The following is a brief summary of state trends and reduction programs for Baker County and the City of Newton.

#### 3.2 State Goals and Trends

The graph below indicates increases in per-capita disposal amounts of all categories of waste in Georgia. The flat line labeled "Total Goal" shows the amount of waste that should not be exceeded for a 25% reduction goal to be met. The graph shows rates have been increasing, moving farther away from that reduction goal.

**PER CAPITA DAILY WASTE DISPOSAL**



### **3.3 State Tipping Fees**

Tipping fees in southwest Georgia, shown in the illustration below, are the lowest in the state, averaging less than \$25 per ton in 2004. Such low fees do not encourage a reduction in disposal rates.

### **3.4 Inventory and Assessment of Existing Waste Reduction Programs**

There are no recycling drop-off centers and no curbside collection of recyclables offered in Baker County or the City of Newton.

- Residents are able to recycle metals of all types and paper in the City of Albany, which is 23 miles away, or paper, plastic and aluminum in the City of Camilla, which is 11 miles away.
- The only grocery store in Newton bales their cardboard and sells it to a recycler located in Columbus, Georgia.
- The elementary/middle school in Newton has their cardboard collected by a driver who delivers it to the Mitchell-Baker Service Center in Camilla. From Camilla cardboard is sold to a recycler in Albany.
- A small thrift store in Newton accepts used clothing and household items.
- White goods and metals may be dropped off at the "County Farm" for collection by a private recycler.
- Baker County can accept small amounts of yard wastes at the County Farm. The open piles of yard debris are allowed to decompose aerobically and are periodically pushed back with a backhoe to create additional space.
- There is currently a litter control ordinance in place in Baker County.
- Tires may be dropped off at the County Farm for a \$3.00 per tire fee. A private company collects the tires.

### **3.5 Needs and Goals of Current Programs**

Baker County and the City of Newton wish to do their part in helping the state achieve a per-capita waste reduction. Needs and goals for the county include the following:

- Compliance with all state and federal laws.
- Work with community schools to educate students and staff on the need to reuse and recycle products.
- Continue to work with community leaders to promote the "Keep Georgia Beautiful" program.
- Establish a drop-off center at the County Farm for additional types of recyclables.
- Encourage home composting in cooperation with the County Extension Agency.
- Expand the number of businesses that recycle.

- Encourage the scrap tire recycling program.
- Continue salvage of white goods at the County Farm.
- Continue to host annual clean-up.

## **4. CHAPTER FOUR WASTE COLLECTION**

### **4.1 Purpose of the Chapter**

The purpose of this chapter is to provide an inventory and assessment of existing solid waste collection systems to ensure the efficient and effective collection of solid waste, recyclable materials and yard waste in Baker County and Newton for the ten-year planning period.

### **4.2 Inventory and Assessment of Existing Programs**

#### **Baker County and the City of Newton**

Baker County and Newton have separate contracts with Seminole Sanitation Services (SSS) in Camilla, Georgia for the collection and removal of their solid waste. Ninety-gallon roll-out carts are serviced once a week for residences in the county where the collection vehicles can safely operate. SSS offers household collection services to residents who are physically unable to take the cart to the curbside, provided such residences are not more than 150 feet from the road, and provided such residences do not represent more than five percent of all residences. For the few residences not served by SSS, a county transfer station just outside the city limits of Newton accepts household wastes. The facility accepts bulky items, and is staffed 20 hours per week.

#### **Baker County**

SSS provides residential and commercial billing service. Residential accounts are served by ninety-gallon roll-out carts, and commercial account holders may choose between 2, 3, 4, or 6 cubic yard dumpsters that are collected monthly. Commercial and residential wastes are not separated, and records of disposal amounts are not kept.

#### **Newton**

SSS charges the City of Newton a monthly bill for the servicing of 264 90-gallon containers and commercial dumpsters ranging in size from 2 to 8 cubic yards. The city bills its residents quarterly for waste disposal along with the water bill. Wastes are not separated, and no records are kept regarding amount of wastes disposed. City residents may use the county dump facility for oversized items.

### **4.3 Needs and Goals of Current Programs**

Baker County and the City of Newton wish to ensure the efficient and effective collection of solid waste and recyclable materials over the ten-year planning period, to continue to encourage solid waste reduction through education and recycling, and to make modifications if necessary to the existing collection practices to minimize the amount of waste disposed. Baker County and the City of Newton will continue to contract for the collection and disposal of their wastes.

## **4.4 Illegal Dumping and Littering**

### **City of Newton**

There are no areas within the city where concentrated illegal dumping occurs. There were several problematic areas that have been cleaned up and signage erected to help prevent the areas from being used in the future as dumpsites. The city also has a litter control ordinance in place. Trash along the state highways within the city limits is picked up by state prisoners. The city hosts an annual cleanup that uses volunteer labor.

### **Baker County**

Baker County also has a litter control ordinance, and uses inmate labor to pick up roadside trash periodically. The county hosts an annual cleanup that uses volunteer labor.

## **4.5 Contingency Strategy**

The following section describes how Baker County and the city of Newton will deal with interruptions and/or increased demand upon their solid waste collection services due to major storms or human-made disasters. There are a number of potential hazards that could generate significant amounts of waste in Baker County.

- Hurricanes have the potential to inflict significant wind damage over a widespread area and may create large amounts of waste material.
- Tornadoes, although more localized than a hurricane, can generate higher wind speeds and may generate significant amounts of debris, especially over urban areas.
- Flooding is a possible hazard along stream corridors in Baker County. Hurricanes and tropical depressions, over a period of several days, have the potential to release up to six months of average rainfall over an area. The resultant flooding may generate significant amounts of debris. Baker County has a number of streams and rivers that could flood, but most are in rural and agricultural areas so their potential to generate waste is limited. The main threat of flooding is to the city of Newton from the Flint River. In 1994 a significant portion of the city was destroyed when the river overflowed its banks after a significant rain event

Baker County and Newton have public works vehicles, equipment, and personnel that would be utilized initially to remove debris generated by a disaster. An assessment by local government leadership of the scope of damage would quickly determine whether or not local government resources are sufficient for the clean-up. Assistance from the local haulers listed in the appendix would be solicited if it is determined additional clean up help is needed.

Contingency plans would be activated if it becomes clear that the health, safety and public welfare are potentially jeopardized by the debris. The timely removal of animal carcasses and other pathogenic materials will be considered a top priority.

Communication to residents will be through television, radio and newspapers if the infrastructure for such methods is sufficiently unscathed by the disaster.

Emergency signage and door-to-door visits could be used to convey vital information to residents if the communications infrastructure is destroyed.

Several staging areas were identified for the temporary storage of debris. The County Farm and several vacant city buyout properties were selected because they are publicly owned, and because they are sufficiently large enough to hold large amounts of debris. It is anticipated that the bulk of the waste material collected will be vegetative. Vegetative and other burnable materials will be stacked in anticipation of an issuance of a burn permit from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

In the event the Thomasville Landfill is overwhelmed by significant amounts of waste, there are a number of backup landfills that could be used. From Newton, the new Decatur County Landfill south of Attapulgus will be roughly 50 miles away, the landfill in Cambellton, Florida is about 75 miles away, the Taylor County landfill near Mauk, Georgia is about 99 miles away, and the Donalsonville Transfer Station is about 42 miles away.

The Baker County Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provide assistance to local governments in times of emergency and the contact information for those agencies is provided below.

Baker County Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) Director Andy Belinc.  
(229) 734-5331.

The Federal Region Center (FRC), of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is located in Thomasville, Georgia (Contact: Gene Davis, Thomasville, GA., (912)226-1761, Ext. 207/343) operates a system of state liaisons to provide assistance and quick response to state/local emergencies.

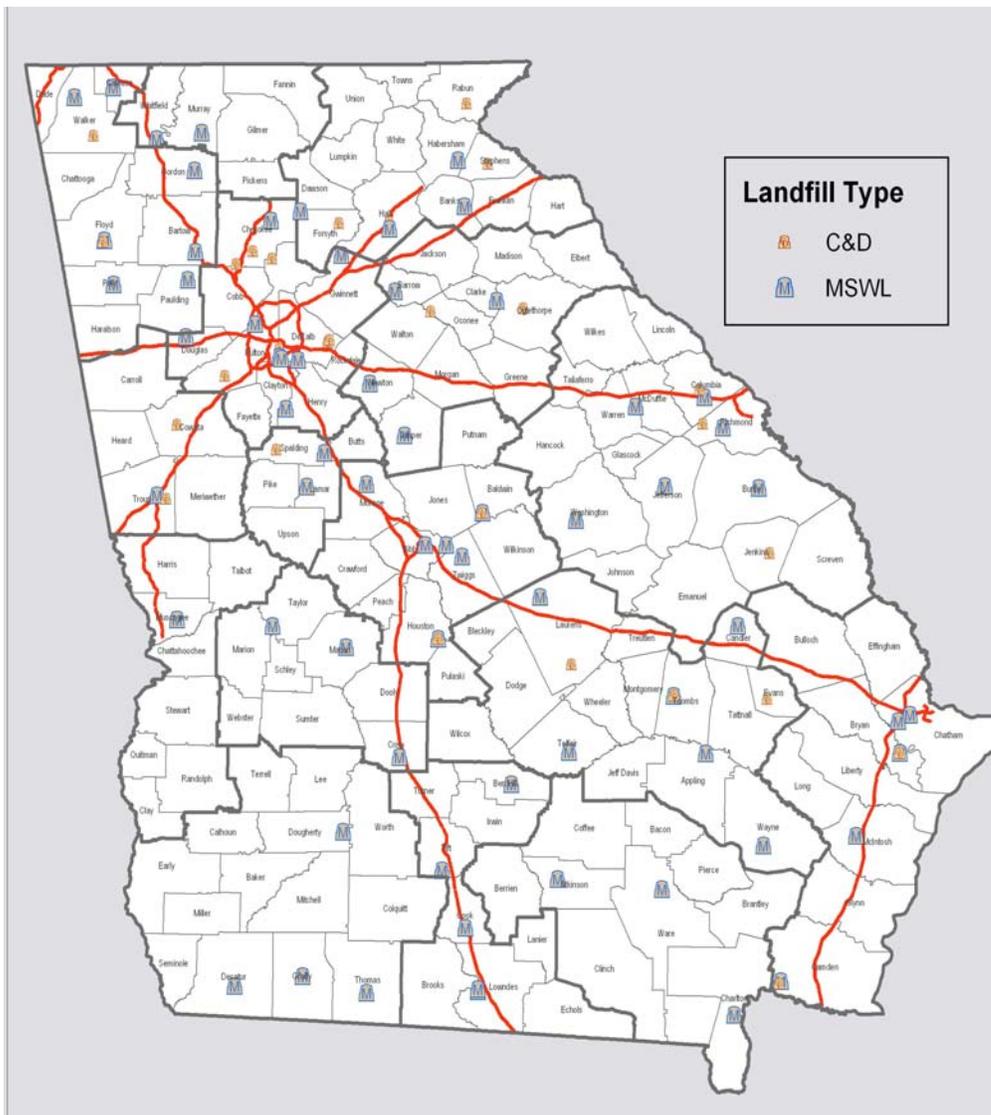
## 5. CHAPTER FIVE DISPOSAL ELEMENT

### 5.1 Purpose of the Chapter

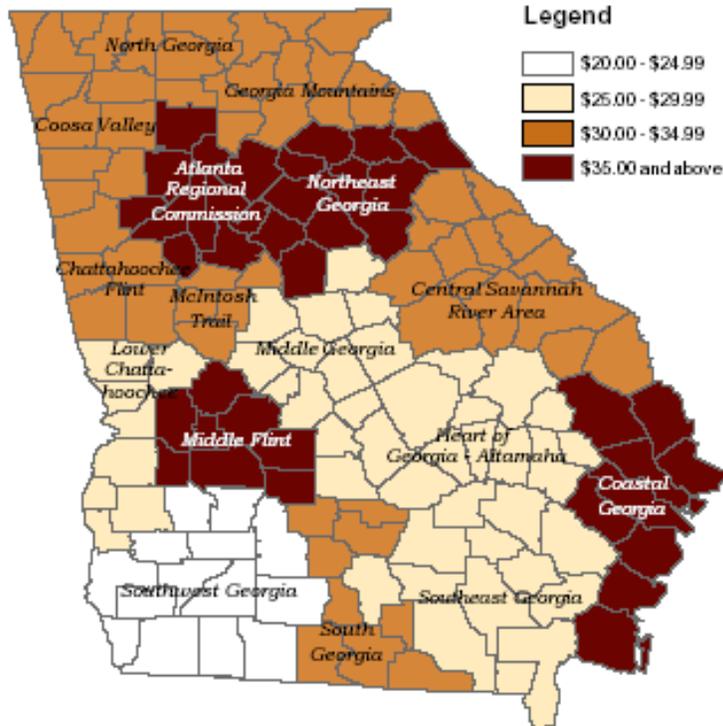
The purpose of this chapter is to identify the types of disposal facilities in the planning area and to provide assurance that the facilities are adequate for the 10-year planning period.

### 5.2 Inventory and Assessment

Seminole Sanitation Services hauls all municipal solid wastes collected in Baker County and the City of Newton to the City of Thomasville Landfill. Additional area landfills are shown on the map below.



## 2004 LANDFILL TIPPING FEES



### 5.3 Needs and Goals

- Baker County and the city of Newton will ensure the sufficient disposal capacity to handle all wastes generated in the county for the next ten years and beyond.
- Baker County and the city of Newton are generally satisfied with the current contract with Seminole Sanitation and expect to continue to dispose of all solid wastes at the Thomasville Landfill through the next ten year planning period.

### 5.4 Contingency Strategy

In the event the Thomasville Landfill becomes inoperable, there are a number of backup landfills that could be used. From Newton, the new Decatur County Landfill south of Attapulgus will be roughly 50 miles away, the landfill in Cambellton, Florida is about 75 miles away, the Taylor County landfill near Mauk, Georgia is about 99 miles away, and the Donalsonville Transfer Station is about 42 miles away.

## **6. CHAPTER SIX LAND LIMITATION**

### **6.1 Purpose of the Chapter**

The purpose of this chapter is to indicate areas in Baker County which are not suitable for solid waste facilities based on environmental limitations or land use and zoning restrictions. Environmental factors include floodplains, wetlands, groundwater recharge areas, steep slopes, water supply watersheds and unstable areas which are susceptible to seismic disturbances. Land use and zoning restrictions apply to developed areas, U. S. National Historic Sites, airports and jurisdictional boundaries.

### **6.2 Basic Limitations for the Siting of Solid Waste Handling Facilities**

Specifically, the following rules outline basic Department of Natural Resources (DNR) limitations for the siting of solid waste handling facilities:

- DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1 requires that at any location within a small water supply watershed, new solid waste landfills must have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- DNR Rule 391-3-16-.02(3)(a) requires that in significant groundwater recharge areas, DNR shall not issue permits for new solid waste landfills not having synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- DNR Rule 391-3-16-.03(3)(e) establishes that solid waste landfills may constitute an unacceptable use of a wetland.
- DNR Rule 391-3-16-.04(4)(h) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills within protected river corridors.
- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a) requires that the site must conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances, and that written verification of such be submitted to the Environmental Protection Division (EPD).
- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(b) requires that whenever any applicant begins a process to select a site for a solid waste disposal facility, documentation demonstrating compliance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-26(a) be submitted to EPD; further, whenever any applicant takes action resulting in a siting decision for a publicly or privately owned solid waste disposal facility, documentation demonstrating compliance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-26(b) be submitted to EPD.
- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(c) requires that new solid waste landfill units or lateral expansions of existing units shall not be within 10,000 feet of any public use or private use airport runway end used by turbojet aircraft or within 5,000 feet of any public use or private use airport runway end used by only piston type aircraft.

- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(d) stipulates that any solid waste landfill located in the 100-year flood plain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment.
- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(e) prohibits the development of solid waste landfills in wetlands, as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, unless evidence is provided by the applicant to EPD that use of such wetlands has been permitted or otherwise authorized under all other applicable state and federal laws and rules.
- DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(j) requires new solid waste landfills or expansions of existing facilities within two miles of significant groundwater recharge areas to have liners and leachate collection systems, with the exception of facilities accepting waste generated from outside the county in which the facility is located. In that case, the facility must be totally outside of any area designated as a significant groundwater recharge area.
- "Hazardous wastes," as that term is defined by O.C.G.A. §12-8-62(10), as may be amended from time to time, are prohibited.

### **6.3 Written Statement of Consistency**

In addition to compliance with the above rules, companies wishing to site a solid waste facility shall submit to the local governing body at least 60 days prior to filing a solid waste permit a "Written Statement of Consistency" that documents general information and how the solid waste facility impacts the community in the following areas:

- What the effect will be on local traffic surrounding the facility
- How the proposed facility will help contribute to existing recycling and waste reduction efforts within the planning area
- What efforts will be made to visually screen the facility
- What efforts will be made to control litter and offensive odors generated at the site
- When the hours of operation will be and the anticipated impact the proposed facility will have upon adequate collection and disposal capability within the planning area
- Types of wastes accepted or rejected
- Geographic area the site will serve
- Target tip fee or cost of operation
- Maximum haul distance
- Minimum and possibly maximum site operating life
- Profile of potential site users
- How the proposed facility or facility expansion contributes to the county's ability to contribute to the state's waste diversion goals
- Whether the proposed facility or facility expansion is sited in a location that is consistent with local zoning ordinances

- Whether the proposed facility or facility expansion negatively impacts natural or cultural resources of the county

Adjacent property owners to the proposed site shall be notified by mail at the time the written statement of consistency is submitted, and an advertisement shall run in the local newspaper(s) briefly describing the proposed project and where and when the public meeting will be held.

#### **6.4 Host Fee**

The host fee paid to the local government shall be negotiable, but shall be no less than \$2 per ton. A trust fund shall be established at a bank within the county chosen by the Board of Commissioners, into which the operator shall pay \$1.00 per ton of waste disposed into this facility for the operational life of the landfill. Expenditures from the trust fund are to be approved by a committee consisting of one citizen appointed by the Board of Commissioners, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, and one representative of the owner/operator. Funds may be used for, without limitation, off-site litter control, to support waste reduction and recycling efforts in the county, groundwater and surface water monitoring, provision of alternate water supplies in the event of ground water contamination, and payments to adjacent property owners and others, at the discretion of the committee, for damages caused as a result of the landfill or its related operations. The trust fund shall exist and earn interest for 20 years following the expiration of the post-closure period, and at that time the remaining funds, if any, shall be paid to the owner/operator or its successors or assigns.

#### **6.5 Needs and Goals**

Baker County will ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities and expansions will meet the needs of the County, will be compatible with surrounding land uses, will not be sited in areas which have been identified as having land use limitations, are consistent with this plan and all Baker County ordinances, and will meet federal, state and local requirements. Additionally, Baker County will keep updated and make available to developers all relevant information about natural limitations, and land use.

## **7. CHAPTER SEVEN EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

### **7.1 Purpose of the Chapter**

The purpose of this chapter is to describe the existing environmental education and programs taking place in Baker County and Newton regarding waste reduction.

It is important to educate the public on the importance of source reduction, recycling, composting and proper disposal of solid waste. The county and city should continue to partner with local organizations to ensure that programs such as the annual “Keep Georgia Beautiful” programs are recognized each year.

### **7.2 Inventory and Assessment of Existing Programs**

- Both the city and county are “Keep America Beautiful” affiliates and host annual clean ups.
- Both the city and county have a litter control ordinance in place.
- Signage in the county and city remind citizens not to litter and the penalties for littering.
- City and county utilize prisoner or probationer labor for the control of roadside litter.
- A private citizen publishes a monthly newsletter called “The State of Baker” that frequently runs articles on waste reduction.

### **7.3 Programs and Agencies Available to Local Governments**

There are a number of free and easily accessible resources available to local governments including:

- DCA Georgia Recycling Market Directory- enables the user to search by material, company name, county, or other variables to find out information about companies and agencies that accept recyclables.
- The brochure *Composting at Home in Georgia*.
- The *Special Events Recycling Guide* is a how-to publication describing waste diversion at large public events.
- The Agricultural Pollution Prevention Program educates and provides technical assistance to farmers in best management practices (BMPs) and sustainable practices.

### **7.4 Needs and Goals**

Objectives for educating the public on the importance of source reduction, recycling, composting and proper disposal of solid waste may include the following:

- Developing a solid waste curriculum for the Baker County School System utilizing DCA solid waste educational materials.
- Educate the public on the costs of solid waste collection and disposal.

- Local governments will review, and amend if necessary, the short term Solid Waste Work Plan each year.
- Educate the public on available resources provided by the state.

## **8. CHAPTER EIGHT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

### **8.1 Purpose of the Chapter**

The purpose of this chapter is to provide a year to year plan of action and to outline some of the available options to finance solid waste management. These methods include the following:

### **8.2 Financing Options**

- **General Funds:** Funds for the financing of solid waste management are collected in the government's general fund. Most of the general fund revenues are collected in the general property tax.
- **User Fees:** User fees distribute the cost of providing solid waste management among users on a proportional basis. The amount of money charged should reflect the total amount of revenues spent on providing the service. User fees are a widely accepted source of revenue and will continue to be a sound source of revenue for local governments.
- **Local Option Sales Tax:** This sales and use tax is a joint county and municipal venture, levied at the rate of one percent. All counties may participate, but municipalities must qualify in order to impose the tax. The governing authority must pass a resolution calling for a referendum and, if approved, pass a resolution calling for the tax. The jurisdiction in which the tax is imposed must agree in writing of a formula for distributing tax proceeds, submitted in the form of a "Certificate of Distribution" to the State Revenue Commissioner.
- **Special Purpose Tax:** Georgia law authorized a special purpose tax in 1985, which was intended to enable local governments to raise funds to finance a single purpose facility. The law requires that a resolution or ordinance be passed to initiate the referendum that will adopt the tax. These are short-term taxes with a maximum duration of five years. A new referendum is required for any change of purpose or extension of the tax.
- **General Obligation Bonds:** These bonds are flexible because the issuing authority guarantees the general obligation bond with its full faith and credit based on its ability to levy assessments on taxable real property in order to pay the principal and interest on the bonds. The authorization to issue these bonds requires a referendum. The bonds can be paid for through user fees. No technical or economic data is required to receive these bonds.
- **Revenue Bonds:** Revenue bonds pledge the net revenue they receive to guarantee payment to bond holders. The interest rate tends to be higher on revenue bonds due to a higher risk factor. Revenue bonds require technical and economic analysis of the project to be financed. Revenue

bonds are most useful in arrangements that do not have taxing powers, such as multi-jurisdictional authorities.

- Current Revenue Capital Financing: Current revenue financing has been the main source of financing the acquisition of waste collection vehicles for most local governments. The major advantage of this system is its simplicity, with no analytical or legal arrangements required. This method depends on the ability of the local government to generate surplus capital.

## **SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM**

<b>COLLECTION</b>	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
<b>Baker County</b>															
Continue to contract to private hauler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	App. \$180,000	FEES
Rely on private recyclers for collection of aluminum	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Individual	None	n/a
Continue to sell metals to private recycler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Continue to encourage solid waste reduction through education and recycling, and to make modifications if necessary to the existing collection practices to minimize the amount of waste disposed	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Continue to enforce the Litter Control Ordinance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
<b>City of Newton</b>															
Continue to contract to private hauler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	App. \$57,000/yr	FEES
Rely on private recyclers for collection of aluminum	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Individual	None	n/a
Continue to encourage solid waste reduction through education and recycling, and to make modifications if necessary to the existing collection practices to minimize the amount of waste disposed	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	None	n/a
Continue to enforce the Litter Control Ordinance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	None	n/a

<b>DISPOSAL SERVICES</b>	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>FY08</b>	<b>FY09</b>	<b>FY10</b>	<b>FY11</b>	<b>FY12</b>	<b>FY13</b>	<b>FY14</b>	<b>FY15</b>	<b>FY16</b>	<b>FY17</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
<b>Baker County</b>															
Periodically review their waste contracts to ensure services continue to be met	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	n/a	n/a
Continue to contract with private waste hauler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	App. \$180,000	GF
<b>Newton</b>															
Periodically review their waste contracts to ensure services continue to be met	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	n/a	n/a
Continue to contract with private waste hauler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	App. \$57,000/yr	GF

## BAKER COUNTY SOLID WASTE PLAN SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM 2006-2015

<b>EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</b>	<b>FY06</b>	<b>FY07</b>	<b>FY08</b>	<b>FY09</b>	<b>FY10</b>	<b>FY11</b>	<b>FY12</b>	<b>FY13</b>	<b>FY14</b>	<b>FY15</b>	<b>FY16</b>	<b>FY17</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
<b>Baker County</b>															
Encourage local interest and involvement in the Keep Georgia Beautiful program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Individual	None	n/a
Encourage local interest and involvement in compost education and demonstration projects in cooperation with the County Extension Agency	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Provide DCA educational materials on composting and recycling methods	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Promote waste reduction and recycling education in Baker County Schools	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Review, and amend if necessary, the short term Solid Waste Work Plan each year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Continue to enforce anti-litter ordinance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Utilize prisoner or probationer labor for the control of roadside litter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Review, and amend if necessary, the short term Solid Waste Work Plan each year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
<b>City of Newton</b>															
Encourage local interest and involvement in the Keep Georgia Beautiful program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities	None	n/a
Encourage local interest and involvement in compost education and demonstration projects in cooperation with the County Extension Agency	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities	None	n/a
Provide DCA educational materials on composting and recycling methods	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Cities	\$50/city	GF
Review, and amend if necessary, the short term Solid Waste Work Plan each year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Continue to enforce anti-litter ordinance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Utilize prisoner or probationer labor for the control of roadside litter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Review, and amend if necessary, the short term Solid Waste Work Plan each year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a

<b>LAND LIMITATION</b>	<b>FY'07</b>	<b>FY'08</b>	<b>FY'09</b>	<b>FY'10</b>	<b>FY'11</b>	<b>FY'12</b>	<b>FY'13</b>	<b>FY'14</b>	<b>FY'15</b>	<b>FY'16</b>	<b>FY'17</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
<b>Baker County and the City of Newton</b>														
Ensure that existing Land Limitation map reflects all criteria	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Baker County will ensure that potential siting of solid waste facilities are not on areas with environmental limitations or where land use and zoning restrictions prohibit landfill siting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Baker County will require that applicants wishing to cite a landfill must conduct a Hydrological Assessment in accordance with the provisions of DNR Rule 391-3-4-23.05(1)(k).	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Baker County will require that if an applicant undertakes the Facilities Issues Negotiation Process pursuant to a facility siting decision, the process will be undertaken in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 12-8-32 and any guidelines issued by the Department pursuant to State law.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Baker County will require that companies wishing to site a solid waste facility shall submit to the local governing body at least 60 days prior to filing a solid waste permit a "Written Statement of Consistency" that documents general information and how the solid waste facility will impact the community	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Baker County will require that a host fee paid to the local government no less than \$2 per ton.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a

<b>WASTE REDUCTION</b>	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	Responsible Party	Estimated Cost	Funding Source
<b>Baker County</b>															
Continue salvage program for white goods and metal at old County landfill	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Establish a drop-off center for additional types of recyclables	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Encourage composting of yard waste by citizens	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Individuals	None	n/a
Support efforts of private aluminum recyclers and voluntary recyclers	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Comply with all state and federal laws	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Continue to work with community leaders to promote the Keep Georgia Beautiful program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Establish a drop off center at the old County Farm for additional types of recyclables	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Work with community schools to educate citizens on the need to reuse and recycle products	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Encourage the scrap tire recycling program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
Educate the public on available resources provided by the state	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a
<b>City of Newton</b>															
Continue salvage program for white goods and metals	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Individuals	None	n/a
Encourage composting of yard waste by residents and businesses	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Individuals	None	n/a
Support efforts of private aluminum recyclers and voluntary recyclers	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Individuals	None	n/a
Comply with all state and federal laws	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	None	n/a
Continue to work with community leaders to promote the Keep Georgia Beautiful program	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	None	n/a
Expand the number of businesses that recycle	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	None	n/a
Educate the public on available resources provided by the state	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	County	None	n/a

## LAND LIMITATION MAP

## **LIST OF ADDITIONAL HAULERS**

## **CAPACITY ASSURANCE LETTER**

# City of Thomasville

## Office of City Engineer

P.O. Box 1540  
Thomasville, Georgia 31799-1540

Phone (229) 227-7009  
Fax (229) 227-3268

December 13, 2007

Mr. T.E. Moyer, Jr.  
County Commission Chairman  
Route 1, Box 1465  
Newton, GA 39870

Dear Mr. Moyer:

This letter serves as a disposal capacity assurance letter at the Thomas County-Thomasville Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Facility for waste generated by the Baker County and the City of Newton. The Georgia EPD permit number for this facility is 136-012D(SL)(4). This assurance is based on an estimated generation of up to 5,636 tons of waste from the above listed county and city at this facility on an annual basis. Remaining capacity including the Baker County waste stream as reported to EPD was 14.2 years for the MSW burial cells. At this time Thomasville is making application for permitting of Phase V that will add in excess of another 25 years capacity to this facility.

Thomasville is pleased to be able to provide Baker County with solid waste disposal and look forward to serving your needs in the future.

Very truly yours,



James Petrak, P.E.  
City Engineer

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BAKER COUNTY CONSOLIDATED SOLID  
WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Baker County, Georgia, and the Mayor and City Council of the city of Newton have found it necessary to prepare a solid waste management plan for the city of Newton and Baker County to meet the needs associated with the collection, disposal, and reduction of solid waste in the communities and to ensure the planned orderly strategy for solid waste management policies that protect the public health, safety and welfare; and,

**WHEREAS**, the readoption of this waste plan is required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to allow solid waste plan deadlines to align with the new planning schedule; and,

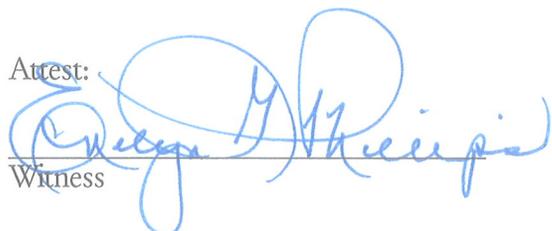
**WHEREAS**, the update and adoption of this revised Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan will ensure that the county remains in compliance with state law and retains its eligibility for solid waste loans, grants and permits;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has reviewed this solid waste management plan and found the plan to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Commission of Baker County, Georgia does hereby adopt the revised Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan for Baker County.

Adopted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY, 2008.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
County Commission Chairman  
T.E. Moya, Jr.  
Baker County, Georgia

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

(seal)



*Southwest Georgia*  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

P.O. Box 346  
30 West Broad Street  
Camilla, GA 31730-0346  
Phone (229) 522-3552 - Fax (229) 522-3558

Karen E Vickers  
Program Coordinator  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
Planning & Environmental Management Division  
Office of Environmental Management  
60 Executive Park South, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Dear Karen:

I, T.E. Moye Junior, Chair of the Board of County Commissioners of Baker County Georgia do certify that the Baker County portion of the collection element in the Baker County Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan has not changed since the Baker County Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan was adopted in October, 2006.

I understand that a readoption of the Baker County Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan is required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to allow solid waste plan deadlines to align with the new planning schedule, and that certification that the collection element has not changed is a part of the readoption process.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY, 2008.

T.E. Moye Junior  
County Commission Chairman  
Baker County, Georgia

Attest:

Witness

*Serving all of Southwest Georgia*

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE BAKER COUNTY CONSOLIDATED SOLID  
WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Baker County, Georgia, and the Mayor and Council of the City of Newton have found it necessary to prepare a solid waste management plan for the City of Newton and Baker County to meet the needs associated with the collection, disposal, and reduction of solid waste in their respective communities and to ensure the planned orderly strategy for solid waste management policies that protect the public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the readoption of this solid waste plan is required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to allow solid waste plan deadlines to align with the new planning schedule; and

WHEREAS, the update and adoption of this revised Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan will ensure that the county remains in compliance with state law and retains its eligibility for solid waste loans, grants and permits; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs has reviewed this solid waste management plan and found the plan to be in compliance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the City of Newton, Georgia does hereby Adopt the revised Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan for Baker County.

Adopted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2008.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Markeita Bullard, Mayor

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pat Hart, Clerk



*Southwest Georgia*  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
P.O. Box 346  
30 West Broad Street  
Camilla, GA 31730-0346  
Phone (229) 522-3552 - Fax (229) 522-3558

Karen E Vickers  
Program Coordinator  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
Planning & Environmental Management Division  
Office of Environmental Management  
60 Executive Park South, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-2231

Dear Karen:

I, Markeita Bullard, Mayor of the City of Newton do certify that the City of Newton portion of the collection element in the Baker County Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan has not changed since the Baker County Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan was adopted in October, 2006.

I understand that a readoption of the Baker County Consolidated Solid Waste Management Plan is required by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to allow solid waste plan deadlines to align with the new planning schedule, and that certification that the collection element has not changed is a part of the readoption process.

Signed this 22 day of January, 2008.

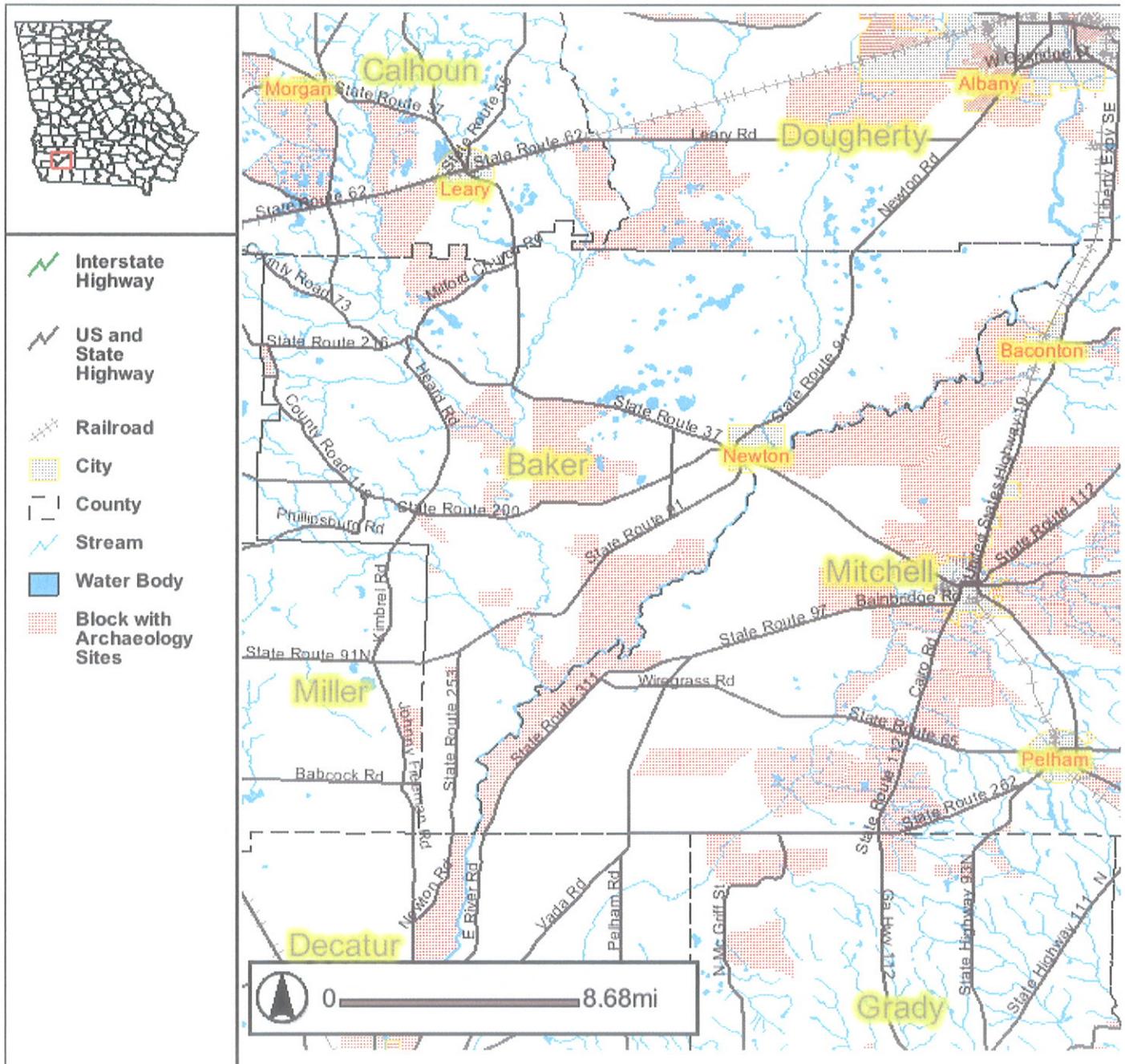
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Markeita Bullard  
Mayor  
City of Newton

Attest:

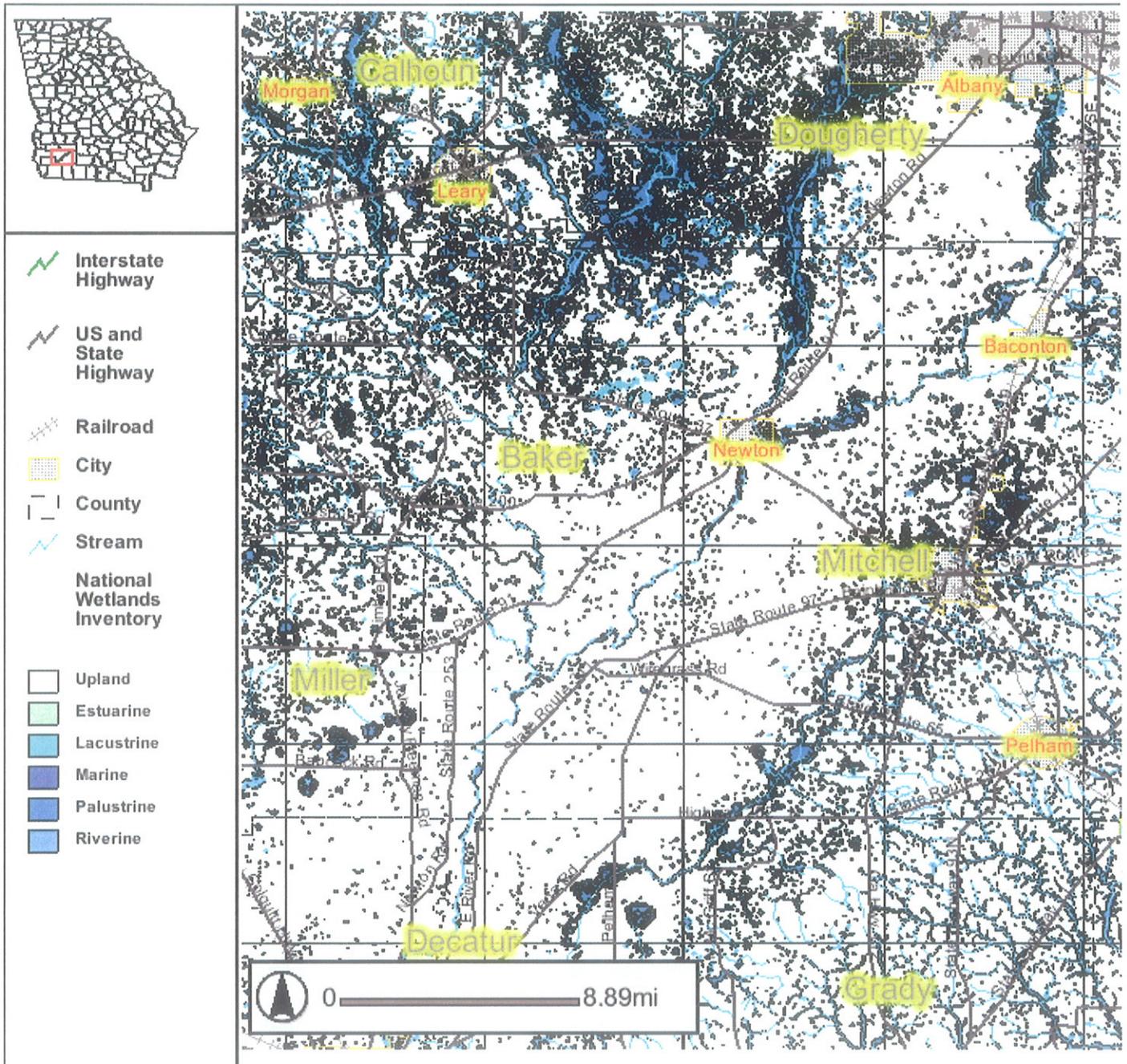
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

*Serving all of Southwest Georgia*

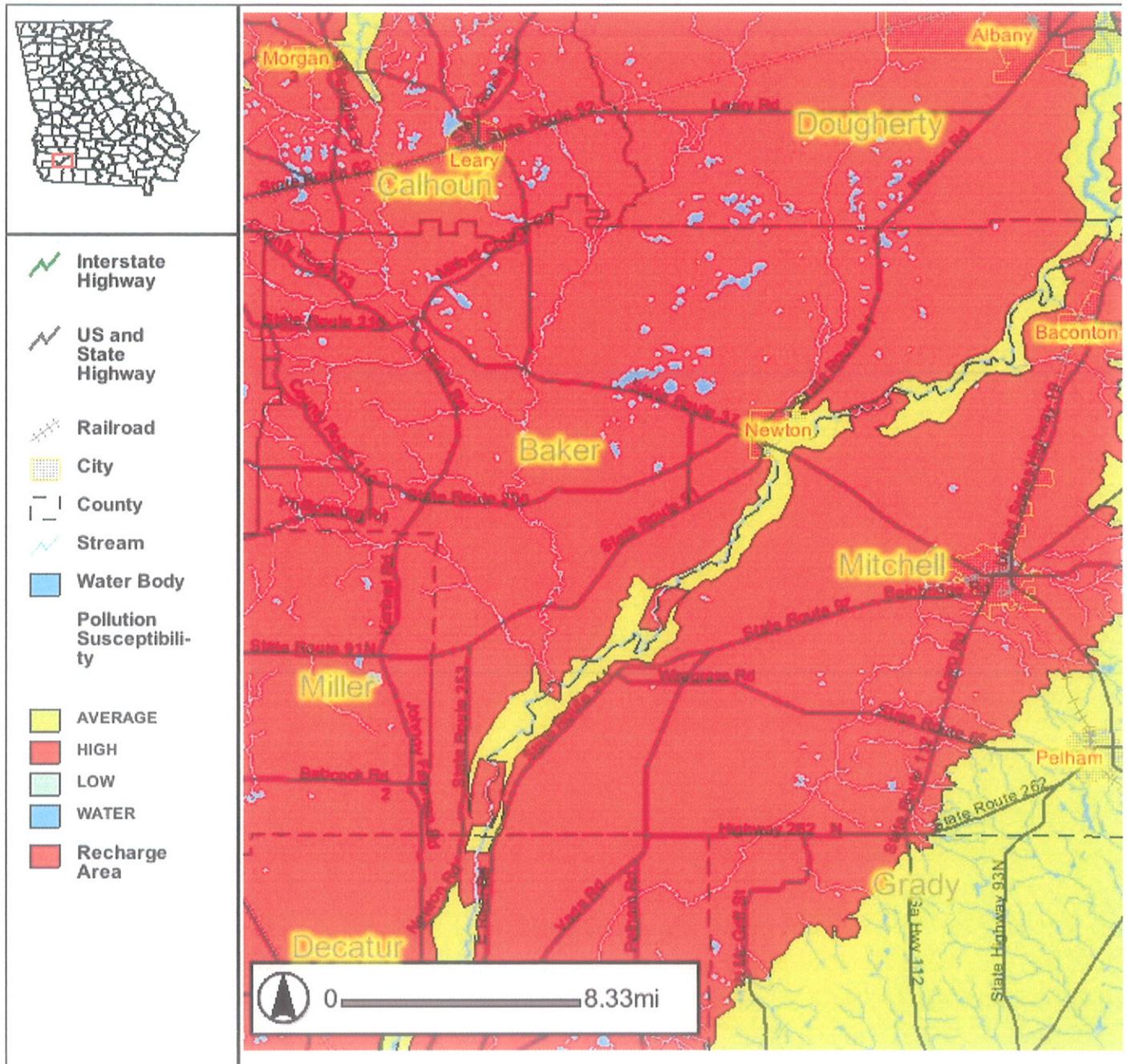
# Historic and Archaeological Resources



# Wetlands



# Groundwater and Pollution Susceptibility





# Flood Zone

