

BROADWATER COUNTY



MONTANA

515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Broadwater County Solid Waste Management Solid Waste Operations Summary Report – June 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

Broadwater County operates five (5) rural canister sites and a combined Class II Transfer Station/Class III Landfill and Burn Site. Canister sites are located at Dry Gulch, Toston, Radersburg, Winston, and on Cedar Street in Townsend. The canister sites were originally established for the convenient disposal of household garbage for county residents. Until June 2019, access to the canister sites was uncontrolled. As a result, non-household wastes and wastes generated from non-paying users were being deposited in the canisters. Consequently, the County experienced a steady increase in costs because revenues were not being collected from out of district users or from users that disposed of non-household wastes at these uncontrolled sites. Beginning in 2016, Broadwater County's Solid Waste Department began to experience a financial deficit that, at the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, resulted in the accrual of a negative balance of more than \$170,000.

Other factors that contributed to the budget deficit included:

- The co-mingling wastes in canisters, that if segregated, could be managed at the Transfer Station rather than disposed of at an off-site landfill;
- Equipment purchases that were not integral to the overall solid waste operation;
- No adjustments to the solid waste assessment since 2001; and,
- The lag time between new home construction and billing of solid waste assessments.

In June 2018, the Public Works Director was instructed by the Commissioners to come up with a solution to control solid waste management costs in the County. In September 2018, a plan to change site operations was rolled-out for public consumption. As a result of public objections to the original plan, three public meetings were held during October 2018 in the County (Toston, Townsend, and Winston) to facilitate public involvement in decision-making by seeking ideas and alternatives to solve the problem. In addition, written comments were also considered.

With the assistance of the Solid Waste Board, the ideas and alternatives identified during the public participation process were analyzed to determine the most cost-effective approach. The final canister site management plan outlined each alternative the Solid Waste Board evaluated. The Solid Waste Board selected the plan that included controlling site access, utilizing personnel to monitor incoming wastes, and requiring large loads and loads of non-household waste to be transported to the Transfer Station. Since the biggest concern for site users was access, a walk-in gate was installed at each site so that after-hours users could deposit garbage into a canister located just inside the fence. Ultimately, the Solid Waste Board's recommendation was presented to and approved by the Broadwater County Board of County Commissioners; the approved plan was implemented on June 1, 2019.

Implementation costs:

Site Modifications/Construction

- Equipment, Signs, and Materials @ \$25,461.77
- Labor @ \$11,153.77

Total construction/modification cost: \$36,615.54

Site Monitoring

- Labor @ \$61,110.80

(this represents the cost for all site attendants, and includes fringe, from June through December 2019)

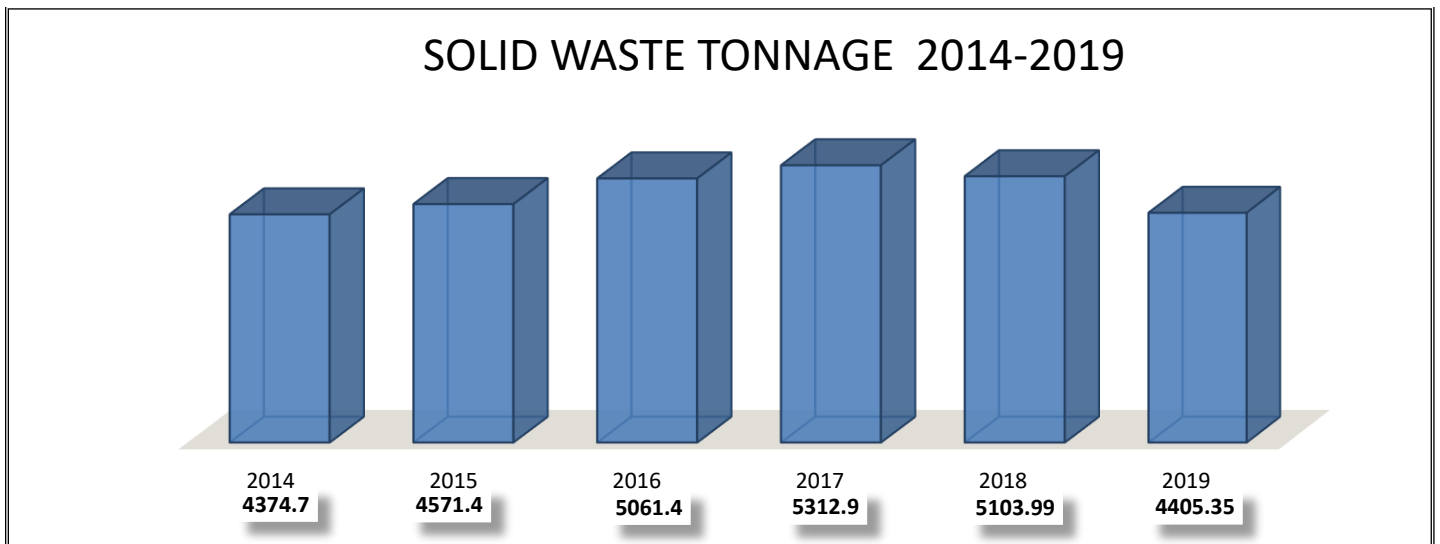
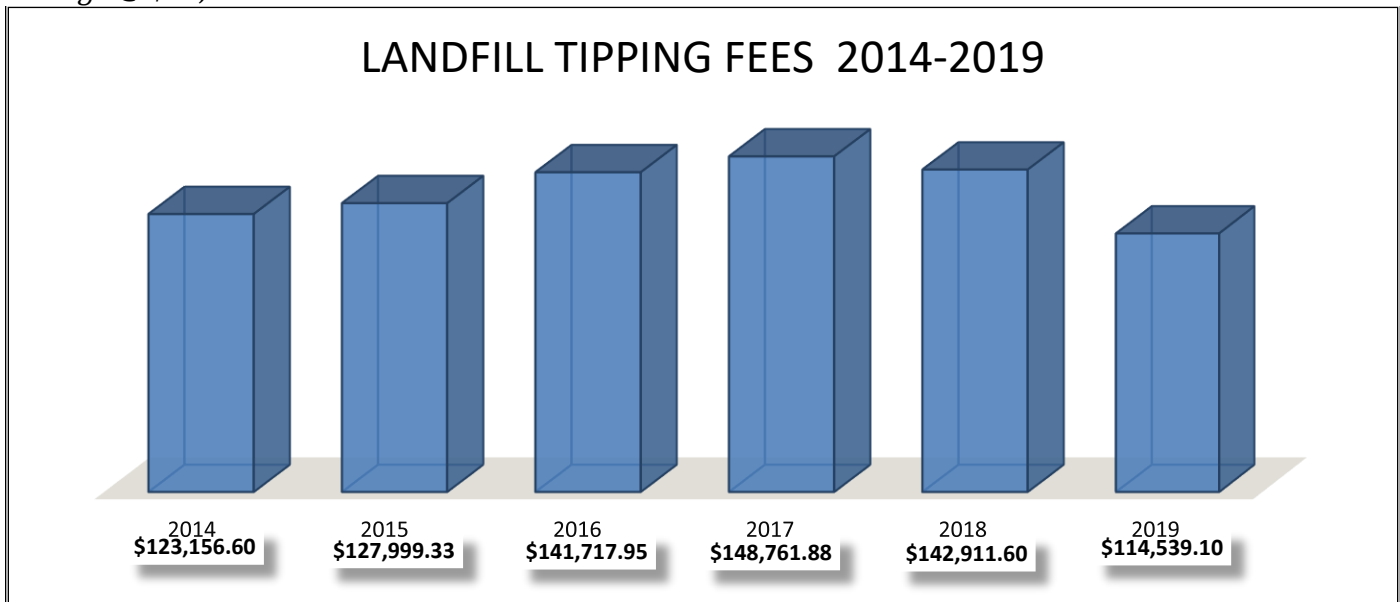
Cost Savings and Revenues:

Tipping Fees:

CY2018 @ \$142,911.60 (5,103.99 tons)

CY2019 @ \$114,539.10 (4,405.35 tons)

Savings @ \$28,372.50



Fuel Costs:

CY2018 @ \$38,213.77

January to June @ \$18,717.25

July to December @ \$19,496.52

CY2019 @ \$33,132.97

January to June @ \$17,313.50

July to December @ \$15,819.47

Savings @ \$5,080.80

Landfill trips:

CY2018 @ 5-7 trips per week – round trip mileage

CY2019

January to May @ 5-7 trips per week

June to December @ 3 trips per week

Cost savings of \$1.38/mile with reduction of 200 miles per week for 30.5 weeks = \$8,418.00

Canister Truck:

CY2018 and Jan-May 2019; average 900 miles/week

June through December 2019, average @ 600 miles/week

Cost savings of \$1.38/mile with reduction if 300 miles per week for 30.5 weeks = \$12,627.00

Revenues not previously captured:

Non-household waste: 575 instances

Assessments from existing homes that weren't fee payers and out-of-district users: 29 users

June to December 2019 @ \$39,376.03

