

Caution is key in county plan for solid waste

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percent of the county's waste stream be recycled. That might mean that maximum-sized incinerators aren't necessary.

"We don't want to be rushed into a mistake. They have a \$100,000 study to look for the potential for each community recycling. We think that's not a sufficient enough effort," Deadman said.

The six consortium communities generate about one-fourth of the solid waste produced in Oakland County. The consortium could spend \$25,000-\$40,000 for a recycling study just for its six member communities. A study should include identification of the type of garbage in the waste stream and whether it should be separated by users or other processes for example, Deadman said.

THOUGH THE county Board of Commissioners' task force has not taken action yet, Rewold said the plans would automatically include 25 percent recycling. Maximum-sized incinerators would fulfill solid waste needs targeted for the year 2010.

"We know if we build maximum now, it's oversized. But it's beneficial even if we have to write shut-off agreements," Rewold said.

But Deadman and Farmington Hills city manager William Costick, a member of Rewold's task force, are reluctant to endorse maximum sizes because of costs and doubt about what is in the waste stream for recycling.

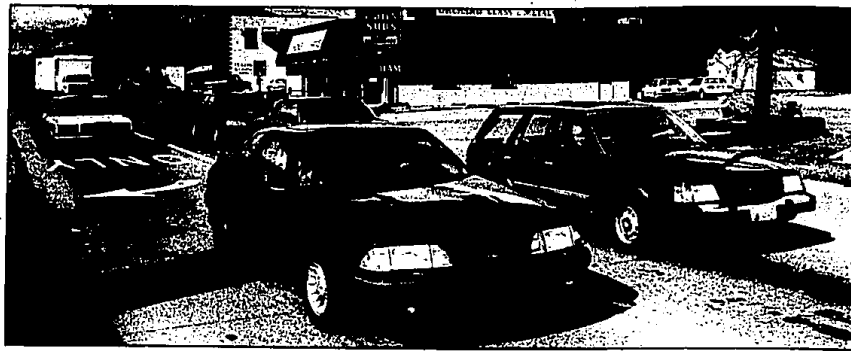
"If state guidelines are followed, 10 percent is compostable, so half their venture would be in composting. So 10 percent has to be pulled out of the waste stream. We don't know the metal content of the waste stream. We'd like to study the market potential for plastics and glass."

New state guidelines call for recycling 50 percent of all solid waste by the year 2005. Fifteen of the 50 percent is out of the county's hands. That portion is in the hands of manufacturers who will be asked to devise packaging alternatives.

"SO WE'RE really dealing with 35 percent that needs to be recycled. We have got to work toward that 35 percent and the county is saying 20-25 percent," Deadman said.

Studying the recycling of solid waste in the southwest Oakland area is a request that will go to the city councils of the six-community consortium sometime in September, Deadman said.

"We really want to look at it. It (recycling) is very labor intensive," he added.



THOMAS ARNETT/staff photographer

This two-lane section of Orchard Lake Road at Grand River in Farmington may be widened if the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills secure a 75-percent matching grant from the state. In Farmington Hills, Orchard Lake Road would be widened into a boulevard from 10 Mile to just south of I-895.

Orchard Lake plan nears approval

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City officials believe the Orchard Lake Road project qualifies for state financing under the new transportation fund's congestion category.

"The volumes warrant expansion. There's a lot of trouble with turning movements," Deadman said. "We're hoping the road's expansion would relieve congestion on other roads."

Design and right of way acquisition costs of almost \$800,000 will be paid for with the help of a 75-percent matching federal grant, which has already been approved for the cities, Biasell said.

City officials are keeping their fingers crossed that if the state approves their request for financing, some work could begin on the three-phase project in 1989 with paving in 1990.

The project would include widening the current two-lane roadway to two southbound lanes, one northbound lane and a center turn lane from Grand River to Shawwassee in Farmington. At Shawwassee, another northbound lane would be added through the 10 Mile-Orchard Lake intersection, Biasell said.

FIVE LANES were considered for

Farmington Hills' portion of Orchard Lake Road. But the city council and residents in the area balked at the idea. And Oakland County wasn't too wild about a four-lane road without a median.

"It was felt the boulevard blends in much better," Biasell said.

Though the proposed four-lane boulevard takes up more room and costs more, city officials don't believe there will be a lot of right of way acquisition because the current road sits to the east of a good portion of right of way, Biasell said.

"We've got some commercial property owners concerned about the right-of-way needs," said Dead-

man, referring to the area near Grand River and Orchard Lake Road, where the roadway is narrow and property sits close to the road.

A third part of the proposed project is storm drainage improvements along the roadway. Biasell said he hopes improvements will help relieve some of the flooding problems in the Springbrook subdivision in Farmington Hills.

Discussion is continuing on the size of drain needed. If city officials decide to use a much larger drain pipe than is grant eligible, local money would have to help pay the bill, Biasell said.

Household items needed

Don't throw away old refrigerators, stoves and beds.

A volunteer from Lighthouse, an emergency shelter in Farmington, will pick up any working household goods, to use in the shelter or to give to people who are moving out on their own.

"We'll take anything from frying pans to refrigerators. We really are in great need of refrigerators and stoves," said Alice Halston, director of the shelter.

Used mattresses and box springs are needed too. "Just yesterday we took furniture to a former client who moved out

into an apartment but didn't have any furniture. She had been sleeping on the floor for four weeks with her four children. And she's pregnant," Halston said.

Head custodian Sam Hall volunteers his time every Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to pick up the donated goods, Halston said.

Halston said they also need donors to help folks to make it out of the shelter. Often they need to save \$1,000 to be able to afford the security deposit, first month's rent and half a month's rent that some apartment managers require. To donate, call 335-7450.

'Creative' Hills family scores big at the Fair

While the Michigan State Fair is a place to enjoy rides, games, animal attractions and entertainers, some people come to the fair as "Olympic hopefuls."

The fair, which ended Monday, offered a variety of competitions, and the Dunbar family of Farmington Hills enjoyed testing their creative skills in many of them.

Jane Dunbar and her daughters, Amy, 14, and Antonia, 12, were contenders in the floral arranging categories this year. The arrangements were required to center around Olympic themes, and the contestants had plenty of room for creativity.

Jane Dunbar took the blue ribbon with her entry in the "Rhythmic Gymnastics" category. Her contempor-

ary arrangement was created from flowers from her garden. Her daughters, also using home-grown flowers, placed in the "Equestrian" category.

The Dunbars' talent is not limited to floral arranging. Autumn Dunbar, 19, took third-place honors for her drawing titled "Woman" and a sculpture titled "Man." The Dunbars were also represented in the vegetable categories, winning honors for their popcorn entries. Amy Dunbar won third place for peach ice cream in the homemade ice cream contest.

"We compete in the state fair because we enjoy being creative," said Jane. "But we also enjoy meeting so many people year after year. After awhile, we're all one big happy family."



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