



Purpose

Pinellas County Solid Waste (SW) provides safe and environmentally-focused integrated solid waste services to all citizens of Pinellas County. These services emphasize public awareness and communication that enable citizens to make educated choices concerning responsible management of their solid waste. In support of that mission, SW operates and administers the landfill, the Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facility, household hazardous and electronic waste collection, waste reduction and recycling programs, and other solid waste management functions. These responsibilities are aligned with the Board of County Commissioners strategic goals to Practice Superior Environmental Stewardship and Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers.



For additional information please visit
<http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste/>



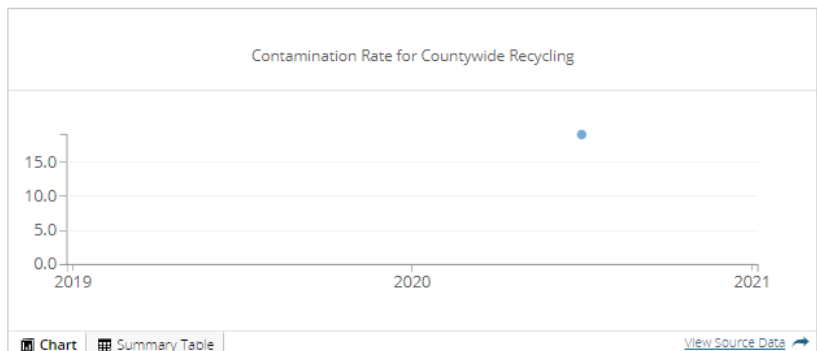
Recycling and Education Program

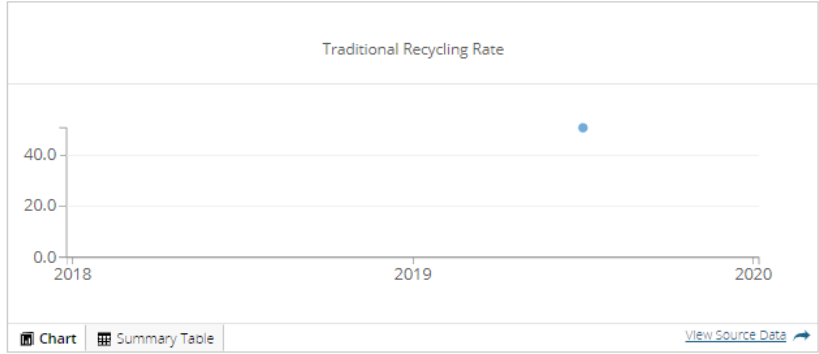
The Recycling and Education Budget Program supports education and outreach regarding the Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center (HEC3), mobile collections, various recycling programs, small quantity generator inspections, and reef construction. Click the image to learn more about Pinellas County recycling.

Pinellas County's traditional recycling rate increased to 50.6% in CY19; CY20 data will not be available until later in CY21. CY19's recycling rate places Pinellas County as 12th in the State of Florida. When including the combustion credit (Waste-to-Energy) Pinellas County is 2nd, behind Lee County.



Solid waste also completed a study in FY20 and found that Pinellas County has a recycling contamination rate of 19.0% countywide. Future surveys are expected to be completed annually, with plans to eventually move to biannual surveys. Additional data is needed to determine the direction of the contamination rate.





Site Operational Program

The Site Operational Budget Program supports the management of solid waste collection and disposal operations, facilities, and contracts, in compliance with application permits and regulations. Click the image to learn more about Solid Waste operations.



COVID-19 did caused some disruptions and changes to Solid waste's operations. Under the original emergency order, Scalehouse operations transitioned to electronic payments only and will remain cashless. The Solid Waste Administration Building lobby has been closed to customers since March 2020, however, the reopening of the lobby is expected in the coming months upon direction from County Administration, with appropriate social distancing measures and equipment.

The Household Electronics and Chemicals Collection Center (HEC3) and Swap Shop were closed in March 2020, however, both were reopened by July 2020. HEC3 mobile collections were also cancelled April and May 2020, but resumed in June 2020. HEC3 processed 516.6 tons of electronics in FY20, which was a decrease of 29.0% from FY19. Despite the closure, chemicals processed at HEC3 in FY20 remained flat at 717.5 tons (a decrease of 1.4%).

Business waste assessments also saw reductions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Compliance rates are expected to increase as assessments begin to be conducted regularly again.



Tons of chemicals processed through HEC3

56.0

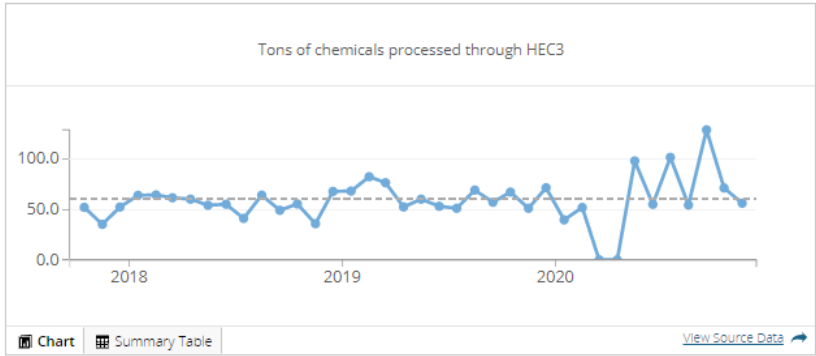
Tons

11/1/20 - 11/30/20

1 Near Target

Target 60.0

[View measure](#)



Tons of electronics processed through HEC3

68.4

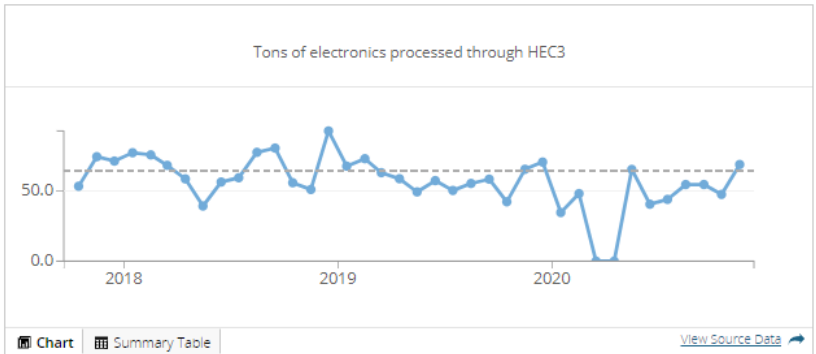
Tons

11/1/20 - 11/30/20

✓ On Track

Greater Than 64.0

[View measure](#)



Tons of Tires Received

954.77

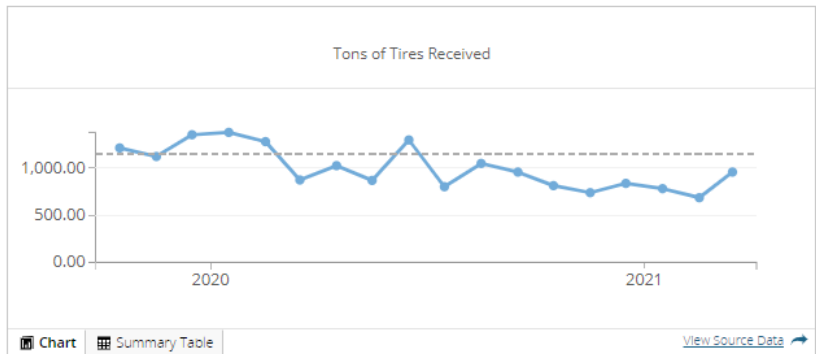
Tons

3/1/21 - 3/31/21

✓ On Track

Less Than 1,150.00

[View measure](#)



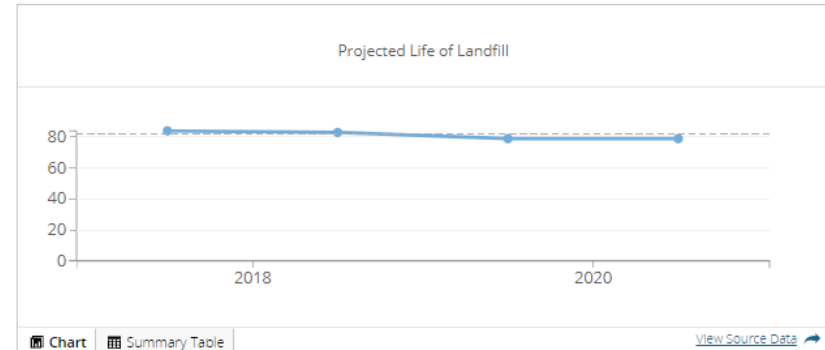
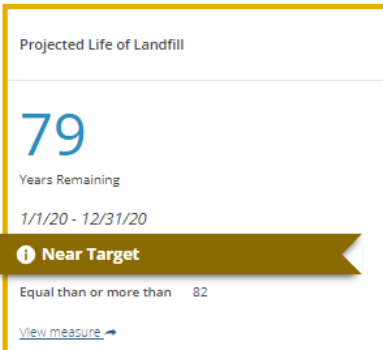
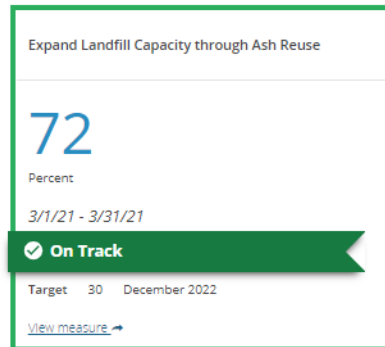


Landfill Life and Waste-to-Energy

The projected lifespan of the landfill is currently 79 years, which is a decrease of three years from FY19. The decrease was due to increased diversions during the Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facility TRP/Covanta CIP project, which is set to end in FY21.

A feasibility study for expanding landfill capacity through ash reuse is expected to be completed by December 2022. The plan will include converting the WTE ash into blocks that will be used to create a berm with steeper slide slopes. The berm will allow for additional landfill space, and thus a longer lifespan.

The lifespan is expected to increase following the TRP/Covanta CIP project and the creation of the ash block berm.



Homes Powered by Waste-to-Energy

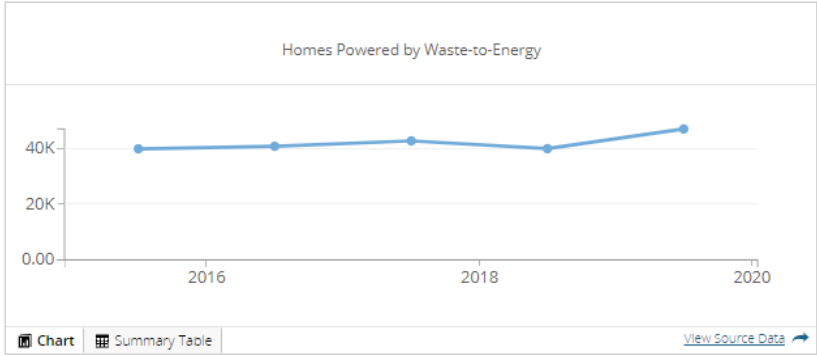
47.1K

Homes

1/1/19 - 12/31/19

Measuring

[View measure](#)



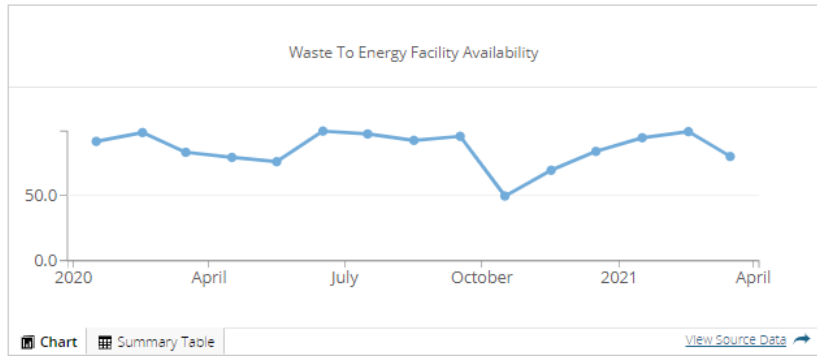
Waste To Energy Facility Availability

80.1

3/1/21 - 3/31/21

Measuring

[View measure](#)



Renegotiate Power Purchase Agreement

Ended

100

Percent Complete

12/1/20 - 12/31/20

Initiative Completed

[View measure](#)





Artificial Reef Guide

Artificial reefs are improving fishing opportunities and creating new scuba diving destinations. Enjoy diving and fishing on the Pinellas County's artificial reefs.

These reefs provide valuable underwater habitats for marine life and are constructed from environmentally safe construction and demolition waste. Items such as concrete pipes, steel beams or entire ships are carefully placed on the ocean bottom. Within about two weeks, algae and barnacles attach to the reef material. Soon, fish come to feed on these creatures. Within a year, the reef begins to support coral growth.

There are 42 reef sites along the gulf coast of Pinellas County from Tarpon Springs to St. Pete Beach, located from 200 yards to 38 miles offshore, and one in Tampa Bay, located north of the St. Petersburg Municipal Pier. Click the image to the right to learn more about Pinellas County's artificial reefs.





HEC3/Swap Shop

Pinellas County Solid Waste operates the Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Center (HEC3) as a disposal location for certain household waste. Pinellas County residents are invited to bring their unwanted electronics and chemicals to the center (at no charge). Click the image to the left to learn more about the program.