



CANYONLANDS
SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

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Canyonlands Solid Waste Authority Press Release

Change of Materials Recovery Facility Used for the Processing and Recovery of Single-Stream Recyclables Collected in the City of Moab and Grand County, Utah

Grand County, Utah - October 29, 2021: Solid Waste Special Service District #1 d/b/a Canyonlands Solid Waste Authority (CSWA) is a special service district that was created by the Grand County Council in 1993 to manage solid waste generated by the residents and businesses of Grand County, Utah, and is governed by a five-person Administrative Control Board consisting of representatives from the Grand County Commission, Moab City Council, Castle Valley, and two At-Large volunteers that reside in Grand County. CSWA's mission incorporates the integrated solid waste management philosophies of reduce, reuse, and recycle while placing a large emphasis on enhancing waste diversion, and providing safe, reliable waste management services that are protective of human health and the environment.

To better serve its purpose, on April 30, 2021, CSWA acquired the real and personal property assets related to the Utah-based operations of Monument Waste Services, LLC (MWS). On May 1, 2021, CSWA assumed MWS's garbage and recycling collection services, including those provided under the franchise agreement with the City of Moab assigned to CSWA as part of the acquisition, and took over the operations of the solid waste transfer station located at 2295 South Highway 191, Moab, Utah.

As part of its acquisition, CSWA committed to retain and maintain all programs and services throughout the transitional period that were provided by both MWS and CSWA, including the collection and transport of single-stream recyclables to a materials recovery facility (MRF). Since September of 2020, single-stream recyclables collected throughout Grand County and the City of Moab have been transported to a MRF owned and operated by Waste Management in Salt Lake City for processing (SLC MRF). Accordingly, beginning May 1, 2021, CSWA undertook to transport single-stream recyclables to the SLC MRF as was done by MWS prior to CSWA's acquisition of MWS's Utah operations. Prior and subsequent to the MWS acquisition, CSWA was informed and understood from Waste Management that all single-stream recyclables being collected locally were accepted and recovered at the SLC MRF for recycling. CSWA recently learned that it had been misinformed, and that the Waste Management SLC MRF does not include glass in its recycling program; consequently, CSWA immediately stopped transporting single-stream recyclables to the SLC MRF.

As a result of this recent information, CSWA immediately identified a MRF located in Denver, Colorado, operated by GFL Environmental, Inc. (GFL), which accepts, recovers, and recycles all items currently being collected via the single-stream curbside recycling program (with the exception of used aerosol cans), including glass bottles and containers. All glass recovered at the GFL MRF is transferred by GFL to Momentum Recycling, LLC's (Momentum) glass recycling plant in Denver, Colorado, for further processing and recycling. The majority of that glass is recycled by Momentum into new glass bottles, and a smaller volume is used in the manufacture of fiberglass insulation. Beginning in November 2021, CSWA will transport single-stream recyclables to the GFL MRF for processing as we continue to research and evaluate enhanced alternatives that may better serve our local recycling collection and recovery program and, ultimately, our mission. Additionally, CSWA is planning to visit the GFL MRF in the near future to confirm that all single-stream recyclables collected by CSWA are being recovered and recycled to their fullest extent.

The Community Recycle Center (CRC), located at 1000 Sand Flats Road, which is also managed and operated by CSWA, continues to operate as a source-separated recycling center. The CRC operates independent of the single-stream recycling program; single-stream recyclables are neither delivered to nor processed at the CRC. All acceptable recyclables received at the CRC are processed for sale at the CRC, remain in regional or domestic markets, and are recycled to their fullest extent.