

Gustavus Disposal & Recycling Center (DRC) Quarterly Staff Report
Ian Barrier, DRC Manager/ Operator
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General Operations and Management

Labor

I do not have much to report on labor for this quarter as labor hasn't changed since my last report. I had Syd Glasmann working this quarter and October is her last month before she heads back to Utah for the winter. She has continued interest in working at the DRC and plans to return next year. For the rest of winter, I plan to be the only operator which has been working out fine so far. Eventually I will want a year round operator so I can take a break during the winter which would be very nice.

Equipment

I did have a few break downs this quarter related to equipment at the DRC and I even had a particular day both balers were down at the same time which is a nightmare situation for our operation. Our Cram-A-Lot baler had a photo eye fail which meant the platen wouldn't move up or down, and the pressure cycle switch broke on our small GPI baler that same day. Luckily I was able to find a work around for our Cram-A-Lot baler and got it back into operation; I simply bypassed the photo switch to force the baler to function without it. Since then the parts have been replaced. Other breakdowns were a hydraulic motor failed on our TROM screener which I was able to rebuild myself and get the TROM screener back into fully operational condition. The next and most recent thing to break was a hydraulic line that blew out on our 763 skid steer loader when I was hauling topsoil. Also related to our 763 bobcat; is I finally bought new rims and tires for the machine which makes a big difference when working in the mud. I also have a spare set if needed, or possibly swap them out to use during the summer months when the machine is mainly used in the paved compost yard which greatly accelerates tire wear.

Shipping

So far this quarter I have preformed five shipments to different vendors. Three of them were in October. Two for International Paper containing our paper and plastic products, one for Seattle Iron & Metals containing mainly metals with value, and two scrap metal shipments to Skookum Recycling in Juneau for our ordinary scrap. I'm still utilizing high top containers whenever it is possible to do so.

Landfill Expansion

During this quarter the drainage ditch has been relocated and the banks revegetated. Syd and I planted some willow trees in the area and I hope they all establish and grow quickly creating some cover. We received the fencing for this project this quarter as well. This fall I spoke to an individual who comes to Gustavus occasionally and falls danger trees around town and asked him about falling the cottonwoods that currently stand in the way of expanding the landfill, they mentioned they have interest in the job. We only spoke briefly but we made a verbal plan to revisit the conversation in the spring. It can be hard to predict; but the current landfill area has enough capacity to get us through next year if needed but I'm assuming this project will be wrapped up by the end of next summer.

Other Projects

This quarter I have spent some time consolidating the miscellaneous piles of topsoil into one pile and have made significant space for more storage which is always lacking here. When I was moving a particular pile of topsoil I started to dig down to harvest sand and have a

place to push the clay muck into. When I was digging I started to hit old trash piles and an old scrap metal pile that contained an assortment of old fuel and tar drums, D-8 bulldozer parts, stack of newspapers from the mid 80's, and asphalt chunks. I did look at a lot of historical photos after finding this stuff which allowed me to confirm a few of these things. Another item I dug up was a tar drum that was $\frac{3}{4}$ full of tar. After talking to locals who have been around Gustavus for a long time it sounds like there are piles of this stuff everywhere in the area plus much, much more. When the foundations are dug for the new building I will be curious to see what is dug up. Another project is we also received a forty foot container from Glacier Bay National Park this quarter which has doubled our dry storage capability. Storage has always been a fight at the DRC due to the small size of the building. We are always shuffling equipment and oddball recycling items around to try and make more room and keep things tidy but now we have a good place to store some of these items. Some examples are boxes of fluorescent tubes and bulbs, spare and unused equipment like the old oil filter crusher, fasteners, hardware, and empty drums.

Community Chest

This quarter Annie was nice enough to send me a list of all the volunteers at the Community Chest along with the total hours they worked. Thus, those volunteers starting with last names followed by first names (The way it was received) have been...Allen Cathie, Bender Vicki, Boesser Kate, Brook Meadow, Chandler Stephanie, Cook Penny, DeHart Jeanette, Elder Carolyn, Gallagher Joyce, Garrett Vikki, Grose-Bray Michelle, Gutman Ilana, Hanson Betty, Hardy Judy, Healy Mary, Hineser-Riggan Martine, Hurley Dorothy, Jarvis Maribeth, Johnson Deb, Jones Robynn, King Becky, Kitchen Paula, Lupro Joyce, Mackovjak Annie, Ney Kim, O'Brien Maggie, Schaller Fay, Sharman Ellie, Smith Cheryl, Vandenberg Kelly, Williams Mary, and Williams Roger with a running total of 348 volunteer hours and five boxes of donations sent to the Glory Hole and four boxes sent to Friends Of The Library. I would like to thank these volunteers for there service; as I personally don't see the majority of them when I visit the Community Chest for work related errands.

The End, thank you.
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Report compiled by ian.barrier@gustavus-ak.gov