



2023 Annual Report

Lincoln County Solid Waste and Recycling



The newly purchased used 826G landfill compactor.

INTRODUCTION

Lincoln County solid waste serves the whole of Lincoln County and includes the towns of Eureka, Libby, Trego, Fortine, Stryker, Rexford, and Troy. There are transfer stations located near Eureka, Happy's Inn, and Troy where bulky items such as brush, concrete (not accepted at Happy's Inn), tires, and furniture may be disposed of in addition to residential household refuse. There were 16 residential use and 23 specific use green box sites dispersed throughout the county to allow for the disposal of residential household refuse without having to travel long distances.

In 2023, the landfills in Lincoln County received a total of 103,112 user visits. The Libby Landfill received 64,551 visits from private vehicles. This was a 10.1% increase in traffic over 2022. The Landfill in Troy received 9,653 visits from private vehicles. This was a 27.9% increase in traffic as compared to 2022. The landfill in Eureka received 28,908 visits from private vehicles. This was a 35.2% increase in traffic over 2022.

SURVEY DATA

In October 2023, the annual Libby Class II landfill survey was completed. The updated data indicated that we had received approximately 44,153 cubic yards of Class II waste volume. This is an approximate 12.25% decrease over the 2022 total. The survey data indicates that there is approximately 187,459 cubic yards of landfill capacity remaining.

SAFETY

Landfill staff remains committed to ensuring a safe workplace. This commitment enables the staff to work together identifying and correcting safety deficiencies before they become incidents. The safety program provides landfill employees with high-visibility summer vests and t-shirts, winter boot traction devices, hi-visibility winter and fall jackets, and gloves to utilize while on landfill property. This year we have created an updated Safety Program, Hearing Conservation Program, and made updates to our monthly inspections, and SDS folder. We will continue to educate our employees and customers about the hazards that may be encountered during landfill visits. We have installed radios in most landfill equipment to enhance radio coverage over the landfill site and beyond.

PERSONNEL

In 2023, manning increased from 9 to 13 Full Time employees, including the addition of three remote site attendants. There are also 2 Permanent part time employees at the Libby Landfill gate, and 1 Full Time Seasonal Employee.

RECYCLING: 414530.5 lbs. (207.26 Tons) *

LOCATION	ALUMINUM	STEEL CANS	CARDBOARD
Libby	6702.5	678.5	239775
Troy	4515.5	896	35812.5
Eureka	4960	** (see note)	139960
Totals:	16178	1574.5	415547.5

**This total only includes aluminum cans, cardboard, and steel cans.*

***Note: Eureka Steel Cans are included in the baled metal totals.*

In addition to the previously mentioned recycled materials, the program diverts the following materials from the waste stream for recycling or landfilling elsewhere:

Used Motor Oil: 3600 Gallons of used oil was sent to the Troy Road department shop to be utilized in their oil heating system from Libby, 400 gallons was sent from Troy, and 2200 gallons was utilized by Big Sky Tire from the Eureka landfill.

Anti-Freeze: 400 Gallons of used anti-freeze from Libby was picked up to be recycled by Tri-State recyclers.

CFC-containing appliances: 500 Refrigerators, Freezers, and AC systems had the refrigerant removed by landfill staff for refrigerant recycling by Johnstone Corporation in Missoula. The metal bits were recycled in the scrap metal section.

Batteries: 684 automotive and small equipment batteries for cores were collected for recycling by the Interstate Battery Corporation of Spokane.

Scrap Metals: 1023.35 Tons of scrap metal was collected and sold for 2023.

Tires: 44 containers (approximately 18,700 tires) were transported to the Greenwood Tire disposal facility in Flathead County for disposal.

Concrete: 1447 Cubic Yards of concrete was deposited in the class IV cells in Libby, Troy, and Eureka.

Rechargeable Batteries: 392 lbs. of rechargeable batteries were sent to Call2Recycle.

E-Waste: 6181 lbs. of e-waste was sent to Yellowstone Recycling Solutions for processing.

Mobile Homes: 76 mobile homes were accepted for disposal through the Junk Mobile home program for the calendar year.

Asbestos containing materials: 2431 Cubic Yards were deposited in the Class IV asbestos landfill.

Eagles: 99 Eagles were counted on the annual USACE bird count on December 17th, 2023. This total included 21 Juvenile bald eagles, 2 Juvenile Golden Eagles, and 76 Adult Bald Eagles.

MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of equipment is an ongoing process due to all landfill equipment being on a severe duty maintenance schedule. All but the most complex of repairs are done by the landfill mechanic(s) at a significant cost savings to the taxpayers. Some completed projects for this year were:

- 938G Front End Loader transmission and hydraulic pump rebuilt by Western States Caterpillar.
- Roll-off container trailer was completely rebuilt by Kootenai Truck Repair.
- Replaced sander body with used body donated by the Troy Road crew. Replaced failed wheel bearing.
- Installed new fuel injectors in the Freightliner Water Truck.



Newly Rebuilt Roll-off Trailer

LIBBY LANDFILL EXPANSION

Access road installed to access the western 25-acre portion of landfill property for clearing to make room for excess soil from the lateral expansion project.



Assisted Great West Engineering in completing the hydrogeological and soils characterization portion of the Class II Solid Waste License Expansion Application.

Updated and modernized the Operation and Maintenance Plan for the Landfill Site including the landfill design section, landfill operations section, facility maintenance section, site-wide Safety program, operations & maintenance task lists, and contingency plans/response procedures.

Submitted the final Class II Solid Waste License Expansion Application to MTDEQ.

Access road to allow for expansion-related soil storage

GREEN CAN SITES

Due to continued abuse of the remote green box sites, the sites at Pinkham Creek, 4th of July, and Savage Lake were closed due to their small size and proximity to other sites. In addition, the Troy Ballpark site hours were reduced to daylight hours only to combat ongoing salvaging and abuse issues. The addition of a roving site monitor in the Troy area allowed the department to keep the Hecla and Yaak Hill sites open for the time being and the Troy landfill open an additional day (Monday through Saturday).

In the Libby area, a permanent site attendant was hired for the Libby Creek site and the site is now open Friday through Monday.



Improper Dumping at Greenbox Site

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- A used 826G compactor was purchased from Flathead County to increase compaction to facilitate landfill space savings within the active Class II cell.
- Happy's Inn chain link fencing was installed and electrified.
- Troy Landfill's gates were replaced due to an incident of vandalism.
- Installed new flooring in the Libby landfill lunchroom building.
- Prepared a propane tank storage area at the Troy Landfill.
- 2016 GMC and 2020 Ford pickups purchased for the Eureka and Troy remote site attendants.
- Upgraded Cameras at the Troy Landfill, Eureka Landfill, and the Troy Ballpark Green Can Sites.



Digging power at Libby Creek site



Damaged gate at Troy Landfill



Libby Creek attendant shack



New propane tank storage area at Troy Landfill