

FWS/A WSR #CR-2007-29
JUNE 4, 2008

LEAF BURNING SELF EVALUATION - VILLAGE OF GODFREY

The United States Department of Interior has requested a self evaluation of the Village of Godfrey Leaf Burning Policy. The self evaluation requires consultations with persons with disabilities and/or disability groups for developing the needed modifications. A Self Evaluation report specifically targeting open burning policies is to be filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service's Civil Rights Coordinator by June 30, 2008.

The Leaf Burning Self-Evaluation Committee has received comments from the public regarding the public health issues regarding the allowed burning of landscape waste. After reviewing the literature on the considerable deleterious effects of leaf burning and listening to testimony by residents, a representative of the disabled community, and a respiratory therapist, the Leaf Burning Self-evaluation Committee has determined that there exists a health problem as well as a nuisance problem in our community. The United States Department of Interior had received a complaint regarding leaf burning within the Village of Godfrey. The complaint regarded the discrimination against her on the basis of disability by allowing open burning which she states aggravates her serious chronic lung disease.

The Village of Godfrey is dedicated to providing and administering to its residents a variety of quality, convenient services. One of these services is landscape waste collection and disposal. The Village of Godfrey licenses 4 waste haulers that offer the option to collect and dispose of landscape waste within the Village of Godfrey. Each waste hauler charges \$1.00 per bag per pick up. Landscape waste must be placed in paper bags. Sticks and small limbs must be bundled for collection. In addition to curbside collection, Godfrey residents also have a variety of other options available for disposing of leaves including composting, mulching, private yard services, and controlled burning.

Within the current system, each resident is responsible for contracting a waste hauler for refuse and landscape waste removal. The monthly cost for refuse is approximately \$21.00 - \$30.00. Each hauler charges extra for Landscape waste pickup.

The current landscape waste collection system and options available have proven successful and adequate in managing the volume of landscape waste generated by Godfrey residents. The Village Board of Trustees has established a self evaluation committee of residents, persons with disabilities and officials

to evaluate the Village burning policy and to review the policies of landscape waste burning within the Village of Godfrey as directed by the US Dept of Justice/US Dept of Interior. The intent of the committee is to review other options for landscape waste disposal. In the search for possible alternative methods to address landscape waste, specifically leaves, management and funding the committee submitted the following options.

EDUCATION/AWARENESS/OUTREACH AND EVALUATION

Education/Evaluation is a component of this self-evaluation. Education, public awareness, and public outreach are essential components in assisting residents with solid waste management which includes public health and landscape waste and recycling. To date there has been no education/awareness program for the citizens.

The Village with assistance from Madison County could develop an educational and awareness campaign to assist with educating and informing residents regarding landscape management options and the importance and benefits of recycling. Newsletters, workshops, brochures, education programs could be used to educate and inform residents. Furthermore, an evaluation program or procedure may be necessary to determine if the education programs and alternative methods of collection and disposal would be utilized by residents and cost effective.

PILOT LEAF VACUUM PROGRAM

The cost for this program would be based on services provided by the private sector. The cost for the village to operate such a program would be substantially larger.

Other communities that offer fall leaf vacuum programs were contacted. It is generally reported that these programs are very expensive and require a substantial amount of equipment and man power to complete the collection even during one fall season. In addition to the large amount of time and money these programs require, other reported problems include: wet leaves and frozen leaves generally cannot be collected and are left to sit at the curb or in the gutters and storm sewers; debris mixed in with the leaves can damage equipment and/or increase collection time; vacuums fill quickly and must be dumped regularly which is time consuming; problems with the storm sewers; if snow falls on the leaves, the snow plows may subsequently push the leaves back into the residents' yards. Several communities reported that they have phased out their leaf vacuum programs for the same reasons mentioned above.

CONTRACTING WITH ONE HAULER AS IS DONE IN NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

In O'Fallon, Illinois it is reported that the community contracts this service along with their waste collection at a cost of \$15.47 per month or \$49.00

quarterly. Each resident is required to bag leaves or place in tagged garage containers for pickup. O'Fallon has a "NO Leaf Burning" ordinance.

In Edwardsville, Illinois it is reported that they contract for garbage collection, yard waste collection and recyclables for a monthly fee of \$15.00 per month.

In Collinsville, Illinois it is reported that they contract a private hauler to collect refuse and landscaping at a monthly cost of \$10.00. Also Collinsville provides dumpsters at their public works facility for residents to drop off landscaping waste at no charge.

LANDSCAPE WASTE REMOVAL OR DROPOFF SITE

The Leaf Burning Self-Evaluation Committee received a proposal from one of the licensed Waste Hauler regarding landscape waste removal and drop-off site:

Robert "Bob" Sanders Waste Systems Inc. of Alton, Illinois, proposed the following options:

OPTIONS

1. Would provide curbside pickup which can be picked up one time per week at a charge of \$7.00 per home per month.
2. To place a 20 yard container at the Public Works Department where either the customer can bring in to dispose of and/or village employees can go out and pick up the compost and bring back to the container. The container would be dumped on an on call basis for a fee of \$115.00 per pull and a \$32.00 per ton landfill dumping fee.

This option would require additional study. A policy would need to be adopted to establish requirements for only Godfrey residents to use the facility. The Village would have additional cost with equipment and the need of employees to man the facility and security.

BURNING POLICY

The Village of Godfrey adopted a Burning of Landscape Waste Ordinance 15-1993 in November 1993. Burning of Landscape Waste and Leaf Burning is permitted only on Wednesday and Saturday of each week. Outdoor landscape waste and leaf burning is limited to all locations within the village where permitted to the daylight hours between sunrise and sunset of each day on which such burning is permitted. All fire or emission of smoke from the burning of landscape waste and leaves shall be completely extinguished by sunset.

The Village of Godfrey has exempted the agricultural farm in agricultural use as defined in the Village of Godfrey Zoning Ordinance 01-2005, Section 60.112.

AMENDMENT TO BURNING ORDINANCE

The committee recommends that the Village Board of Trustees consider amending the Burning Ordinance: dates, times, materials, methods and zoning districts.

ENFORCEMENT OF CURRENT POLICY

The Committee also reviewed the enforcement of the current policy. Many citizens reported that the present burning laws are simply not enforced; fires remain smoldering all night, and are left unattended. Due to the lack of clarity in the definition of Agricultural Use, Non-Agricultural Use land owners are not allowed to burn seven days a week sunrise to sunset. The Committee would recommend that the Village Board of Trustees and Madison County Sheriff's Department issue fines to those property owners burning other than allowed days in all residential districts and non-agricultural district.

OTHER OPTIONS

The Committee recommends that the Village Board evaluate the possibility of one company to contract the removal of waste, recycling and landscape waste for the Village of Godfrey. A draft copy of a proposed RFP for waste hauler contract. (see attachment)

CONCLUSION

The Leaf Burning Self Evaluation Committee has invested quality time and effort into researching the issue of leaf burning management. Many options have been explored, others have been contacted, and discussions with local businesses and interested parties were held.

The Leaf Burning Self-Evaluation Committee has reviewed several possibilities for eliminating or controlling leaf burning within our Village. The Committee would urge the Board of Trustees to adopt one of continuing consideration the alternative leaf disposal methods with phasing in a ban on leaf burning. Currently, several communities within the State of Illinois have successfully established burning bans including, O'Fallon, Edwardsville, Bloomington, Normal, Champaign, Springfield. The Committee is of the opinion that an additional fee would not be necessary to manage an increase in landscape waste collected if the Village would contract with one hauler for the services of waste, recycling, and landscape waste. With each household paying \$21 or more a month this fee could possibility decrease with the contract.

While some citizens think there is no alternative to our current policy, it is imperative that the Village Board be more proactive in meeting the growing health needs of its citizens and in creating a living environment in which newcomers can enjoy a good quality of life and where businesses can flourish. Implementing alternatives to leaf burning is progress toward making our community environmentally responsible and healthy. The committee would

urge the Board of Trustees to adopt a policy of continued consideration of the alternative leaf disposal methods with the idea of phasing in “No Burning” policy.

The village recognizes that the disposal of yard waste is an issue which elicits a high degree of public interest and that a trend away from incineration can be seen in neighboring communities. While the solutions adopted by other communities can provide helpful examples for Godfrey, adaptation of a specific plan to best meet our unique needs is obviously a complex process. The choices we potentially make from the range of available options would set into motion public revenue investments and public policy commitments that the Village would have to live with for years. Recognizing the high degree of prudence and accountability that must be exercised in analyzing this situation, and the need to involve our citizens in the process, it is the suggestion that the village form a long standing committee for the further analysis of yard waste issues and subsequent recommendation of solutions to the board. We further suggest that the Village gather input from its citizens through the encouragement of public hearings, and consider the possibility of Village referendums as a vehicle to calibrate public sentiment, and for the adoption of any specifically proposed plan.

ATTACHMENT – OTHER OPTIONS

DRAFT RFP

Contractor Proposal for Waste Hauling, Recycling, and Landscape Waste Hauling for the Village of Godfrey, County of Madison, State of Illinois.

BID No. _____

To the Village of Godfrey, Illinois:

Proposal of: _____

Exclude Federal Excise Tax and Illinois Sales Tax in fee prices. The Village of Godfrey is tax exempt. An exemption certificate will be signed upon request where applicable. The Village’s Federal Tax Exemption Registration Number is _____.

The bids shall be legibly prepared with ink or typed. Bids having any erasure or correction may be rejected unless explained or noted over the signature of the Bidder.

Every Bid submitted shall contain the full name and address of the Bidder and specify whether the Bidder is an individual, partnership, association, or corporation.

The undersigned having carefully read and considered the terms and conditions to the specifications for Waste Hauler Contract for the Village of Godfrey, Illinois of the type and quality and in the manner described, and subject to an in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the specifications at the rates hereinafter set forth:

Waste Hauling and Disposal, Recycling, and Landscape Waste Removal Services

The above mentioned services shall be bid in the following four options:

Option A

Option B

Option A

Waste Hauling and Disposal (one collection each week), Recycling, and Landscape Waste Removal Service (by blanket bill to Village to cover each household unit).

Year start	Year end	Monthly cost per unit	Monthly
Billing Rate			
Aug 1, 200_ - Jul 31, 200_		\$ _____	
		\$ _____	
Aug 1, 200_ - Jul 31, 20__		\$ _____	
		\$ _____	
Aug 1, 20__ - Jul 31, 20__		\$ _____	
		\$ _____	

General Waste Collection

Day of Pickup

(circle one)

M T W T F

Recycle Waste Collection

Day of Pickup

(circle one)

M T W T F

Landscape Waste Collection

Day of Pickup

(circle one)

M T W T F

Option B

Waste Hauling and Disposal (two collections each week), Recycling, and Landscape Waste Removal Service (by blanket bill to Village to cover each household unit).

Year start	Year end	Monthly cost per unit	Monthly
Billing Rate			
Aug 1, 200_ - Jul 31, 200_		\$ _____	
		\$ _____	
Aug 1, 200_ - Jul 31, 20__		\$ _____	
		\$ _____	
Aug 1, 20__ - Jul 31, 20__		\$ _____	
		\$ _____	

General Waste Collection
Collection

Day of Pickup One

(circle one)

M T W T F

Day of Pickup Two

(circle one)

M T W T F

Recycle Waste

Day of Pickup

(circle one)

M T W T F

Landscape Waste Collection

Day of Pickup

(circle one)

M T W T F

**Bid Specifications for Waste Hauler Contract for
The Village of Godfrey, County of Madison, State of Illinois**

Background

The Village of Godfrey is located twenty (20) miles Northwest of the City of Edwardsville on Ill. Rt. 67 and twenty (20) miles north of the City of St. Louis, Mo. on Rt. 367/67. It has a population of over 16, 000 residents as of the 2000 census. In response to State of Illinois environmental regulations, the Village has implemented a recycling program with the current waste hauler. However, to fully comply with regulations, the Village must implement a landscape waste removal program with this contract.

Landfill disposal of yard waste is no longer permitted under Illinois law. This bid specification contains provision for yard waste disposal.

Waste Hauling

Currently, the contractor collects, removes, and disposes of all municipal solid waste for approximately [6,300] residential dwelling inside the Village limits twice (2) a week. All solid waste must be placed within five feet of the street for pick up. Newly added residential dwellings are added to the list upon village official's notification to contractor.

Residential solid waste collection is conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday of each week. With recycled items once a week. In addition, the contractor removes and disposes of solid waste generated by municipal facilities, one (1) six yard dumpster at the Village park, one (1) six yard dumpster at the Village Hall, one (1) six yard dumpster at the Public Works Facility and one (1) six yard dumpster at Sewer Treatment Facility. All municipal solid waste collected by the contractor is disposed of, as required by the State of Illinois, Dept. of Public Health, and in compliance with Federal and State Environmental laws, the regulations of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, and the Environmental Protection Agencies of the United States.

The collection of solid waste is not limited to any specific number of containers for each household, and it is the obligation of the contractor to remove all solid waste placed at the curb, within the Village limits, on the designated pick up day.

Normally, weekly waste hauling does not include bulky items such as large household appliances, automobile parts, or construction materials.

Large Items Pick Up

A special clean-up week is announced by the contractor annually in the spring and fall, and, during these weeks, the contractor provides pick ups for large, bulky items to be removed by the contractor to the disposal site and

disposed of in a manner which meets all applicable laws and regulations. Currently, these large items are picked up on a weekly basis on Friday.

Composting

Items accepted include leaves, grass clippings, shrub clippings, and small twigs and branches. Provisions in this contract will provide for the collection of yard waste by the contractor.

Recycling

The contractor weekly removes the following recyclable materials from the curbside of all residential units:

- Newspapers
- Glass- clear, green, and brown colors
- Aluminum, tin, and steel cans
- Plastic (HDPE) beverage containers
- Plastic soda bottles
- Office paper

All recyclable materials placed for collection shall be owned by and are the responsibility of the individual or entity placing said materials for collection until the material is removed by the contractor for transport to a recycling center. All recyclable materials collected by the contractor shall be marketed by the contractor at the expense of the contractor in accordance with all state and local laws, rules and regulations.

SPECIFICATIONS:

Waste Hauling

A. Pickup Service and Schedule

1. The contractor shall furnish complete equipment, labor, materials, and supplies and perform all the work necessary to complete the terms of this Bid Specification, except as otherwise specified herein.
2. Curbside service of waste hauling shall be done for every residential unit located within the corporate limits of the Village of Godfrey. Areas annexed to the Village following the adoption of the contract must be serviced upon notice to the contractor by the Village of Godfrey.

3. Except as modified during holiday weeks, municipal solid waste shall be collected from each housing unit as bid by the contractor in the accepted contract. All waste hauling shall be completed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Absent from extraordinary circumstances as determined by the sole discretion of the Village, failure to complete pick up within these times will result in a penalty of the (\$10) dollars per household unit.
4. Pickups shall be at the curbside of all residences or residential units served, or, in the case of municipal buildings, pickups will be in the designated "garbage area" located on the premises, provided that such designation meets the prior approval of the contractor and the Village.
5. Twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall, the contractor shall furnish a bulk pickup service to collect and dispose of discarded materials and trash to all residents of the Village. This bulk pickup shall include items such as, but not limited to, refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, dryers, freezers, hot water heaters, pianos, beds, box spring sets, large carpets, other discarded household furnishings, fixtures and appliances. Said items shall be placed at the curb by the resident on the day designated for bulk pickup. Items to the excluded include vehicle batteries or any size or type, any size or type or tires, yard waste, and any items which may be considered as Hazardous Materials.
6. Collections normally falling on the holidays listed below (or any others so designated by the contractor in the Bid) may be suspended by the contractor, but such decision in no manner relieves the contractor of his obligation to provide collection service as specified in the accepted contract.

New Year's Day	Labor Day
Memorial Day	Thanksgiving
Independence Day	Christmas Day

The contractor, at the beginning of each year, shall provide the alternative pickup schedule for all holiday weeks.

7. The contractor shall not be required, under the terms of this contract, to collect any municipal solid waste from any commercial or industrial establishment, nor from any structure which does not contain residential family unites. The contractor may, at his option, contract separately with firms, individuals, or agencies for waste hauling outside the scope of the contract, subject to any Village code regulations governing the private scavengers generally, and providing

such operations shall not interfere with the satisfactory carrying out of the work under the contract.

B. Disposal of Solid Waste

1. All municipal solid waste and or landscape waste collected in accordance with the terms hereof, shall become and is the property of the contractor as soon as the same is picked up or otherwise loaded into the contractor's vehicle, except as otherwise provided.
2. The contractor shall, on the day of collection, transport all solid waste collected hereunder and shall dispose of and deposit the same in an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency-permitted sanitary landfill or incinerator or at an approved transfer site, in accordance with all Federal, State, and County regulations pertaining to the disposal of solid wastes.

Recycling

A. Introduction.

1. The Bidder, in addition to other waste hauling obligations previously stated in these Bid Specifications, shall provide recycling service to the residential and municipal units of the Village of Godfrey herein described.

B. Recyclable Materials.

1. The contractor shall consider the following materials as recyclable:
 - Newspapers consisting of bagged, boxed, or securely twined newspaper.
 - Unbroken glass- clear, green, and brown colors
 - Aluminum, tin, and steel cans
 - Plastic (HDPE) beverage containers
 - Plastic soda containers
 - Cardboard (tied in bundles no longer than four feet, containers will be disassembled).
 - Office paper and telephone books

C. Curbside Pick Up.

1. The contractor shall furnish a regularly scheduled, once weekly, year round, recyclable material collection service, on the same day as a waste hauling pick up, for each unit in the Village.
2. Pick up of recyclable materials shall be at the curbside of all residences or residential unites served, or, in the case of municipal buildings, pick ups will be in the designated "garbage

area” located on the premises as previously described. Back door pick ups will be at the discretion of the contractor in all cases.

D. Containers.

1. A container will be used by residents to place recyclable materials at the curbside. The Village will be responsible for the distribution of the proper containers for residential use. The contractor shall leave at the point of collection the containers used and any protective covers used to keep the material dry. The contractor shall be responsible for any damage caused to such containers and protective covers by the contractor, except from weather and normal wear and tear.
2. The contractor shall collect at curbside all recyclable materials that have been placed in bin-type containers meeting the above specifications, providing that the containers do not exceed sixty (60) pounds per container. The contractor shall not be required to collect at curbside recyclable materials that exceed the weight limit.

E. Collection.

1. All recyclable materials collected/accepted in accordance with the terms hereof shall become property of the contractor as soon as it is picked up, accepted, or otherwise placed in the contractor’s vehicle. The contractor shall have a contractual obligation to ensure that all recyclable materials are properly recycled and marketed. Illegal disposal of recyclable materials shall be construed as failure to perform and the Village shall deduct all monies attributable to separate recyclable materials collection and disposal from that month’s charges.
2. There shall be no limit to the quantity of above mentioned recyclable materials that residents may set out at the curb except as noted. All recyclable materials set out at the curb in the proper containers shall be picked up at one time.
3. If the resident fails to properly prepare their recyclable materials as stated above, the contractor shall tag the material, explaining why the material was not picked up. The tag should also visually indicate proper recyclable material containment and provide the contractor’s telephone number.

Landscape Waste Removal

A. Introduction.

1. The Bidder, in addition to other obligations previously stated in these Bid Specifications, may elect to provide landscape waste removal service to the residential units of the Village herein described. The bidder who is selected will be required to collect all landscape waste materials from residential sites and transport them to their own (or other) compost facilities for disposal.

B. Landscape Waste Removal Program.

1. Landscape waste shall be collected at the curbside of residential units on a once-a-week basis on the same day as waste hauling.
2. Containers to be used for the collection of landscape waste shall be thirty (30) gallon two (2) ply kraft paper bags (or equal) or garbage cans with a capacity of thirty-four (34) gallons or less. Residents will be required to mark the garbage cans with twelve (12) inch high red X's around the body of the can for ease of identification. No plastic bags or boxes of any kind shall be allowed.
3. The contractor shall collect at curbside all landscape waste that has been placed in the proper container listed above, providing the containers do not exceed a weight of sixty (60) pounds per container. The contractor shall not be required to collect containers exceeding the above listed weight limit, that contain items other than landscape waste, or that are not accepted at the compost site used by the contractor.
4. The contractor shall not be required to collect branches exceeding three (3) inches in diameter.
5. All landscape waste collected/accepted in accordance with the terms hereof shall become property of the contractor as soon as it is picked up, accepted, or otherwise placed in the contractor's vehicle. Illegal disposal of landscape waste shall be construed as failure to perform and the Village shall deduct all monies attributable to separate landscape waste collection and disposal from that month's charges.
6. There shall be no limit to the quantity of above mentioned landscape waste that residents may set out at the curb except as noted. All landscape waste set out at the curb in the proper containers shall be picked up at one time.

7. If the resident fails to properly prepare their landscape waste as stated above, the contractor shall tag

Bidder Information

Bidder:

Address:

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone No: _____ Fax No: _____

Customer Service No. if different from above:

Please indicate:

- Individual
- Partnership
- Association
- Corporation
- Other

If corporation: Illinois corporation
 Incorporated in State of _____ and

licensed to do

Business in the State of Illinois.

FEIN of Bidder: _____

(Signature of Authorized Signer)

(printed name)

Unsigned or Incomplete Bids will be rejected.

