

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guam Post Annual Elections

Please let Scott Thompson (scott.thompson@coffman.com) or Noel Enriquez (nenriquez@macdonaldbedford.com) know if you are interested in being a Director. Elections are in May. Installation of Officers in June.

SAVE THE DATE

24 APR 2021, 0600 Show Time Earth Day 2021, Island-wide Beautification Cleanup

Meeting Place: Tamuning Mayor's Office. Bring your face mask and reusable water bottle.

5 MAY 2021, 1200 - 1300 Investments 101,

Virtual presentation by BG Investments geared towards first-time investors. Hosted by the Young Professional's Committee. Open to all members. For more info: Contact Jecelia Llegado (Jecelia.Llegado@ghd.com)

18-22 MAY 2021 ChST Virtual Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo (JETC)

Three keynote speakers, 50+ speakers, 40+ educational and training sessions, Virtual Exhibits. For more info: www.samejetc.org

Upcoming April Meeting

Returning to the Workplace Presented by Steelcase, Inc and Interior Showplace

Guam & CNMI Military Construction Plan & Design

Presented by Jacobs Engineering Group

15 APR 2021



MARCH EVENT RECAP: ZERO WASTE ANALYSIS & IMPLEMENTATION

Conchita Taitano, Air and Land Administrator, Guam Environment Protection Agency (GEPA) and Cory Hinds, Project Manager, Jacobs Engineering Group presented on Guam's Zero Waste Plan and results of their waste characterization study during our March General Membership Meeting.

A waste characterization study was performed with the goal of obtaining a larger understanding the landfilled materials on Guam, to drive programs and policies to increase the diversion of waste away from landfills and save money and resources. Waste materials being sent to the landfill only from four sources (residential, commercial, military and illegal dump sites) were sorted and characterized. The following were key findings of the study:

- Existing landfill bans on cardboard, ferrous metals and tires appear to be working as the levels in the samples were low.
- Food waste and compostable organics represents a significant opportunity for diversion (e.g. source reduction, composting, and anaerobic digestion)
- Quantities of #1 and #2 plastics confirm existing material recycling on Guam is saving significant landfill space.
- The largest quantities of plastics being landfilled on Guam are #7 or Other including plastic film. Evaluations for on-island management include small-scale pyrolysis. Implementation of single-use plastic bags (in progress) is a good interim step.
- Mixed paper is a significant portion of the landfill waste. With no current market, material will need to be landfilled until a solution is found.
- Inorganics (e.g. diapers, textiles, waxed plates/cups, rubber) are made of composite materials will be a challenge to manage sustainably on Guam.
- Based on the composition of the landfilled waste on Guam the two recommended focus areas for diversion include 1) food waste and organics and 2) recycling.

Recommendations on the way forward include the following:

1. Reduce, Recover and Divert Food & Compostable Organics from the Landfill
Immediate Options: Outreach & Education (Schools, Homes, Businesses), Incentives to Expand Food Recovery/Donation, Composting (School, Home, Biosolids)
Long-term Options: Island-wide Organics Composting, Anaerobic Digestion (Biogas to Energy)
2. Tetra Pak Separation & Recycling
Options: Separation & Recycling at Schools, Green Purchasing, Environmental Producer Responsibility
3. Plastic Recycling
Options: Evaluate Chemical Recycling Options, Leverage Investments, Institutional Framework Development (Green Purchasing, Bans, Economic Incentives)
4. Reduce Illegal Dumping
Options:
 - a) Mandatory Collection Service (all Residents Pay) to include waste & recycle bins and pick up of bulky items, expand customer base, disincentive to illegally dump
 - b) Tipping & User Fee Management: Bundle Waste Collection Fees with Utility or Housing Payments; Structure the program so existing customers do not pay more; consider feasibility and viability of Pay-As-You-Throw options
 - c) Conduct Comprehensive Cost-Benefit Analysis
5. Greening Roadway Infrastructure

