



Sustainability and Waste in Apache Junction

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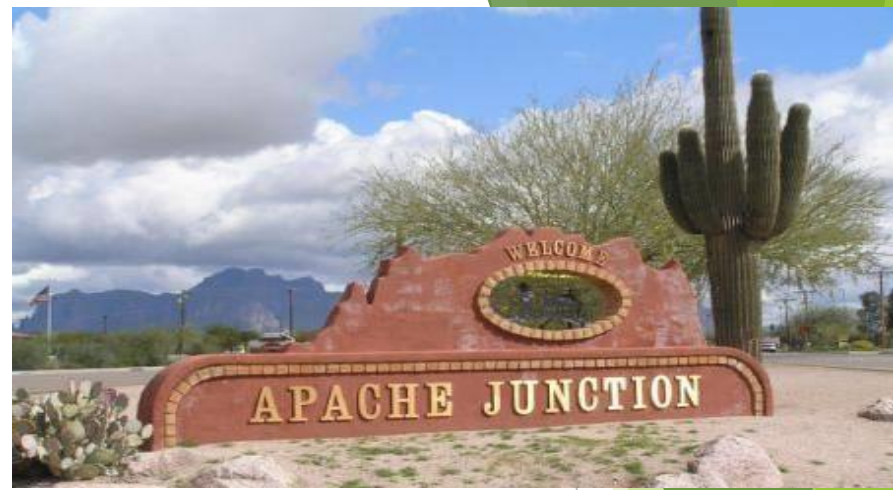
Outline

- Introduction
 - Background
 - Apache Junction Solid Waste Management Practices
- City Case-Study Benchmarking
 - City of Buckeye
 - City of Queen Creek
 - City of Fountain Hills
- Current Policies & Compliance
 - Apache Junction City Code
 - State and County Mandates
- Tools & Resources for Managing Waste Streams
- Recommendations

Introduction & Background

Apache Junction looking for constructive suggestions to improve waste collection services and HHW policies

- AJ does not currently require curbside trash pickup
- “If we can’t see it, it doesn’t exist”
- Landfill possibly affecting development
- Republic Services landfill is scheduled to close when full, but prospective date keeps getting pushed back
- Residents can’t use transfer stations or landfills in neighboring cities.



Apache Junction Solid Waste Management Practices

- 3 waste contractors offer subscription services
- One neighborhood cleanup, four dump days a year
- One transfer station
- Once a year hazardous waste collection



Waste & Recycling
Facility



REPUBLIC
SERVICES



City Case-study Benchmarking

- Comparable Cities:
 - Buckeye
 - Queen Creek
 - Fountain Hills
- These were chosen because:
 - Similar population
 - Geographic similarities
 - Successful waste management program



Buckeye



Buckeye

- Located in the middle of Maricopa County with a population of 63,000, Buckeye stretches 392 square miles across Arizona.
- Buckeye's Best Practices:
 - Single waste service provider
 - Relatively cheap service fee
 - Recycling education program

Queen Creek



Queen Creek

- Located southeast from Phoenix, AZ, with a population of about 33,000, Queen Creek covers 28.5 square miles.
 - Queen Creek was the first to implement 1x week trash and recycling pickup in the valley.
- Best Practices:
 - Single waste service provider
 - Very cheap service fee
 - Long-term contract



QueenCreek.org/DoMoreBlue

Fountain Hills



Fountain Hills

- Located Northeast of Phoenix, AZ, with a population of 23,000, Fountain Hills covers 18.2 square miles.
- Fountain Hills formed some of their waste program around Queen Creek's.
- Best Practices:
 - Multiple service and rates options
 - Very cheap service fee
 - Republic Rewards Program

Curbside Trash and Recycling Service Schedule:

- Trash
- Recycle
- Green
- 2x's Week
Trash Customers

AREA*	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
1	● ● ●		●	
2		● ● ●		●
3	●		● ● ●	
4		●		● ● ●

OPTION#	TRASH (TAN LID)	RECYCLE (BLUE LID)
1	1 x per week	1 x per week
2	1 x per week (2 cans)	1 x per week
3	2 x per week*	1 x per week
4	2 x per week*	0

*Fountain Hills residents can place their account on vacation hold for up to 6 months, 1 time per year, at no charge.

* Please note: your service days will be only one day apart for additional trash service.

Current Policies & Compliance

Is Apache Junction in compliance with State and County waste collection mandates?

- Apache Junction City Code: Article 9-5 Collection of Residential Solid Waste
 - Article 9-5-1 - Legislative purpose
 - Article 9-5-3 - Residential solid waste collection agency
 - Article 9-5-7 - Appeals
- No mandate requiring residents to have a waste collection contract
- No mandate addressing proper disposal of hazardous waste

Current Policies & Compliance

Is Apache Junction in compliance with State and County waste collection mandates?

- Arizona Administrative Code: Title 18, Chapter 13
 - Article 3 - Refuse and other objectionable wastes
 - R18-13-305 - Collection required
- Maricopa County Environmental Health Code: Chapter II - Sewage and Waste
 - Section 5 - Non-hazardous solid waste collection and disposal services
 - Regulation 6 - Collection required
- Pinal County Environmental Health Code: Chapter X
 - Regulation 5 - Collection may be required

Tools & Resources: Policies & Programs

- EPA: Managing and Transforming Waste Streams Tool
 - Best practices and working programs
 - Customize search based on; sector, materials, diversion potential, local authority, etc.
- Example 1: Monterey, CA - Last Chance Mercantile
 - Reuse center for sale of household items, furniture, paints, construction materials, etc.
- Example 2: Tucson, AZ - Right Size Your Can
 - Volume-based service
 - Potential to save residents money



RIGHT SIZE YOUR CAN

If you don't fill up your trash can every week, you can save money. Now, the smaller the container, the less you pay.

520-791-3171

Can Size	Volume	Cost
L	95 GALLONS	\$16.75
M	65 GALLONS	\$16.00
S	48 GALLONS	\$15.00

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
WWW.TUCSONAZ.GOV/BID

Tools & Resources: Hazardous Waste & More

Where are collection sites for HHW?

- Maricopa County
 - Waste tire collection center, free to residents (Queen Creek, AZ)
 - Green waste, used oil, HHW items (transfer stations)
- Pinal County
 - White appliance and waste tire collection centers (Florence, AZ)
 - HHW collection center (Coolidge, AZ)

Can Maricopa or Pinal County better serve Apache Junction?



Recommendations: Short Term

- Establish a Solid Waste Task Force (Consult with City of Queen Creek)
 - Address possible issues of non-compliance
- Utilize solid waste management networks
 - IMCA (International City/County Management Association)
 - Bullhead City, AZ has been involved in a partnership with IMCA on solid waste
 - Maricopa Association of Governments - Solid Waste Management Planning
 - Apache Junction is already a member of the association
- Establish a HHW and/or reuse center in AJ
 - Engage neighboring cities with the possibility of a partnership or
 - Private contract for HHW disposal
- Engage the community (Consult with City of Buckeye)
 - Will residents be willing to participate?
 - Introduce the idea early in the process and get feedback

Recommendations: Long Term

- Require residents to have solid waste collection
 - Consider combining waste collection service bill with water bill
 - As Apache Junction grows it must stay competitive
- Consider contracting with one service provider
 - Utilize and modify existing contracts from nearby cities
 - Likely more cost effective
- Draft a Request for Proposal (RFP) that suites the needs of Apache Junction
 - Gradual increase of rates for low income residents?
 - Vacation hold service for winter only residents
 - Include recycling service