

## DEBRIS REMOVAL & DISPOSAL

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The Johnson County Public Works Department is responsible for coordinating debris removal and disposal in the unincorporated areas of the county. For the incorporated areas, the cities are responsible for this coordination, with the county providing secondary support if needed and available. In emergency situations, where limited local resources may require centralized coordination & prioritization, the Public Works Group in the county Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will assume this responsibility.

**LOCAL RESOURCES:** Current listings of local resources available for debris removal & disposal must be maintained.

- **Jurisdiction:** The County Engineer maintains a listing of county Public Works Department owned equipment and trained operators. The County Engineer will also collect and maintain similar listings of appropriate equipment and operators from the Airport Commission, Wastewater Department, and the Park & Recreation District. Cities with public works and/or parks departments will be responsible for maintaining similar listings of their own resources.
- **Contractual:** The county Environmental Departmental maintains lists of local contractors and equipment rental businesses, including those qualified to remove hazardous materials, substances or wastes, asbestos and lead-based paint. The Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Emergency Resources Catalog is a directory of services, supplies & equipment available through local chapters of the Heavy Constructors Association & the Associated General Contractors of America under the provisions of "Plan Bulldozer" following a locally declared disaster.

**VOLUNTEERS:** There is no formal organization of volunteers specifically for the purpose of removing & disposing of debris. Unaffiliated volunteers will be referred to a Disaster Volunteer Reception Center if established; otherwise they will be referred to the Kansas City Community Organizations Active in Disaster (KCCOAD) or specific volunteer agencies.

**MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS:** Johnson County Resolution 115-95 implements the authority to render & receive emergency mutual aid. A Memorandum of Understanding (19 July 1990) between the Heavy Constructors Association of the Greater Kansas City Area, the Kansas City Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America, and Johnson County describes the provisions of "Plan Bulldozer." (See also the Basic Plan)

**ORDINANCES & REGULATIONS:** Specific county regulations that may impact debris removal & disposal are listed below. Cities may establish their own ordinances, provided those ordinances are not less restrictive than existing county regulations.

- **Placement of Debris:** The county has adopted the 2003 International Fire Code, which specifies that a 3-foot clear space be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants.
- **Recyclable Materials:** There are no county regulations with respect to segregating recyclable materials.
- **Private Contractors:** Under the jurisdiction of the District Attorney, private contractors assisting with debris removal and disposal must be registered through the Johnson County Department of Planning, Development, & Codes.
- **Burnable Debris:** Permits from the local fire departments are required to conduct any open burning. Additionally, open burning exemptions may be required from the Johnson County Environmental Department to comply with Kansas Air Quality regulations.

## FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE:

- **Landfills:** The county has six landfills, all of which are permitted as construction & demolition (C/D) landfills, meaning solid waste disposal areas used exclusively for the disposal of C/D wastes. The definition of C/D waste includes vegetation from land clearing, utility maintenance & seasonal or storm-related cleanup. Johnson County Landfill, Inc., a privately owned & operated facility, is by far the largest landfill and the only sanitary landfill (accepts trash & non-hazardous wastes) in the county.

The following table provides some basic information on county landfills. Their locations can be seen in Figure O-1.

Landfill	Owner/Operator	Permit	Access	Accepts
Asphalt Sales Company, Inc. 23200 W. 159 <sup>th</sup> St., Olathe	Asphalt Sales Company	C/D	Public	C/D & brush only
Holland Corporation 23775 W. 159 <sup>th</sup> St., Olathe	Holland Corporation	C/D	Public	C/D & brush only
Johnson County Landfill 17500 Holiday Drive, Shawnee	Deffenbaugh Industries	C/D & MSW	Public	Trash, C/D & brush, non-hazardous waste
O'Donnell & Sons Landfill 1600 W 151 <sup>st</sup> St., Olathe	O'Donnell & Sons/ Deffenbaugh Industries	C/D	Public	C/D & brush only
Overland Park Landfill 17000 W 53 <sup>rd</sup> St., Shawnee	City of Overland Park	C/D	Private	C/D & brush only
Olathe Landfill 127 <sup>th</sup> St. & Hedge Lane, Olathe	City of Olathe	C/D	Private	C/D & brush only
Reno Landfill 167 <sup>th</sup> & Metcalf, Overland Park	APAC-Kansas, Inc./ Reno Construction Division	C/D	Public	C/D & brush only

- Structural Characteristics: Johnson County Landfill, Inc. is the only lined landfill in the county.

- **Restrictions:** None of the county landfills will accept radiological material, hazardous chemicals, hazardous material wastes, free liquids in bulk, or animal carcasses.
- **Transportation Routes:** Once appropriate landfills, temporary staging areas and/or reduction sites are determined, transportation routes to these facilities will be included in debris disposal announcements to the public. Considerations for route selection will include truck size, length of haul, traffic patterns, road conditions and facility access. Designated routes for hazardous materials, if any, will be included.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION:** The following elements of public information are specific to debris removal & disposal. (See also Annex C: Public Information)

- **Public Awareness:** Timely information will be provided to the public on the magnitude of the situation, as well as the sequence of debris removal & disposal operations. Public officials and environmental groups should be briefed on the burning methods used, how the systems work, environmental standards, and associated health issues and risks.
- **Reporting:** Incidents of illegal dumping or the locations of illegal dump sites should be reported to the law enforcement agency in that jurisdiction.
- **Contracting:** The requirements for public notices for contracts may be modified or waived entirely, if deemed necessary, following a declared local emergency. Various public information channels (i.e., newspapers, radio & television, etc.) will be used to notify contractors of such departures from the normal contracting process.

**CRITERIA FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL:** Debris removal activities will be prioritized in the following order:

- **Threats to Public Health & Safety:** Debris as threat to lives, public health, and safety, including debris which obstructs passage of emergency vehicles and access to critical facilities.
- **Prevention of Damage:** Debris posing the threat of significant additional damage to public structures (buildings, roads, etc.), or private property.
- **Speedy Recovery:** Debris hindering the economic recovery of the impacted community.
- **Debris on Private Property:** The property owner is responsible.
  - **Homeowner's Insurance:** Most homeowner fire and extended coverage insurance policies have special coverage for debris removal and for demolition of heavily damaged structures.
  - **Debris Removal:** Specific guidance with respect to debris pick-up may be provided to the public following disaster or emergency.

- **Right of Entry:** Should local governmental resources be used to remove debris from private property when it poses a hazard to public health or safety, a right of entry agreement will be executed with the property owner. The right of entry agreement shall include a waiver of liability for government workers and specify any known owner intent to rebuild, to ensure that the foundation and utilities are not damaged further during debris removal operations.

**TEMPORARY DEBRIS STAGING & REDUCTION SITES:** Sites selected for temporary debris staging & reduction will be on public property with sufficient acreage to handle anticipated needs. Selection criteria will include minimum noise impact, adequate traffic flow and environmental considerations.

**DEBRIS REDUCTION METHODS:** The following are acceptable methods of debris reduction:

- **Burning:** Different burn methods can be utilized to reduce debris:
  - **Air Curtain Pit Burning:** Expedites the volume reduction process and has fewer environmental concerns than open burning.
  - **Controlled Open Burning:** Cost effective method for reducing clean, woody debris in rural areas. Must be terminated if mixed debris enters the waste stream.
  - **Refractor Lined Pit Burning:** Pre-manufactured refractory lined pit burners can be erected on site in a minimal amount of time. Reduction rate can be as high as 95% and air pollution is minimal.
- **Grinding & Chipping:** Although more expensive than burning, grinding & chipping are more environmentally friendly methods. Chippers are ideal for use in residential areas, orchards or groves. Grinders are better suited for use at debris staging and reduction sites.
- **Recycling:** Should be considered early in the debris removal & disposal operations, since it may present an opportunity to reduce the overall cost.
  - **Ash:** From burn operations; can be recycled as a soil additive.
  - **Mulch:** From chipping & grinding; can also be recycled.
  - **Metals:** Can be recycled through landfill operations or by private organizations.
  - **Soil:** Clean-up operations using large pieces of equipment pick up large amounts of soil. This soil can be recovered through screen or shaker systems and sold or recycled back into the community. The disposal of contaminated soils will be coordinated through the Environmental Department.

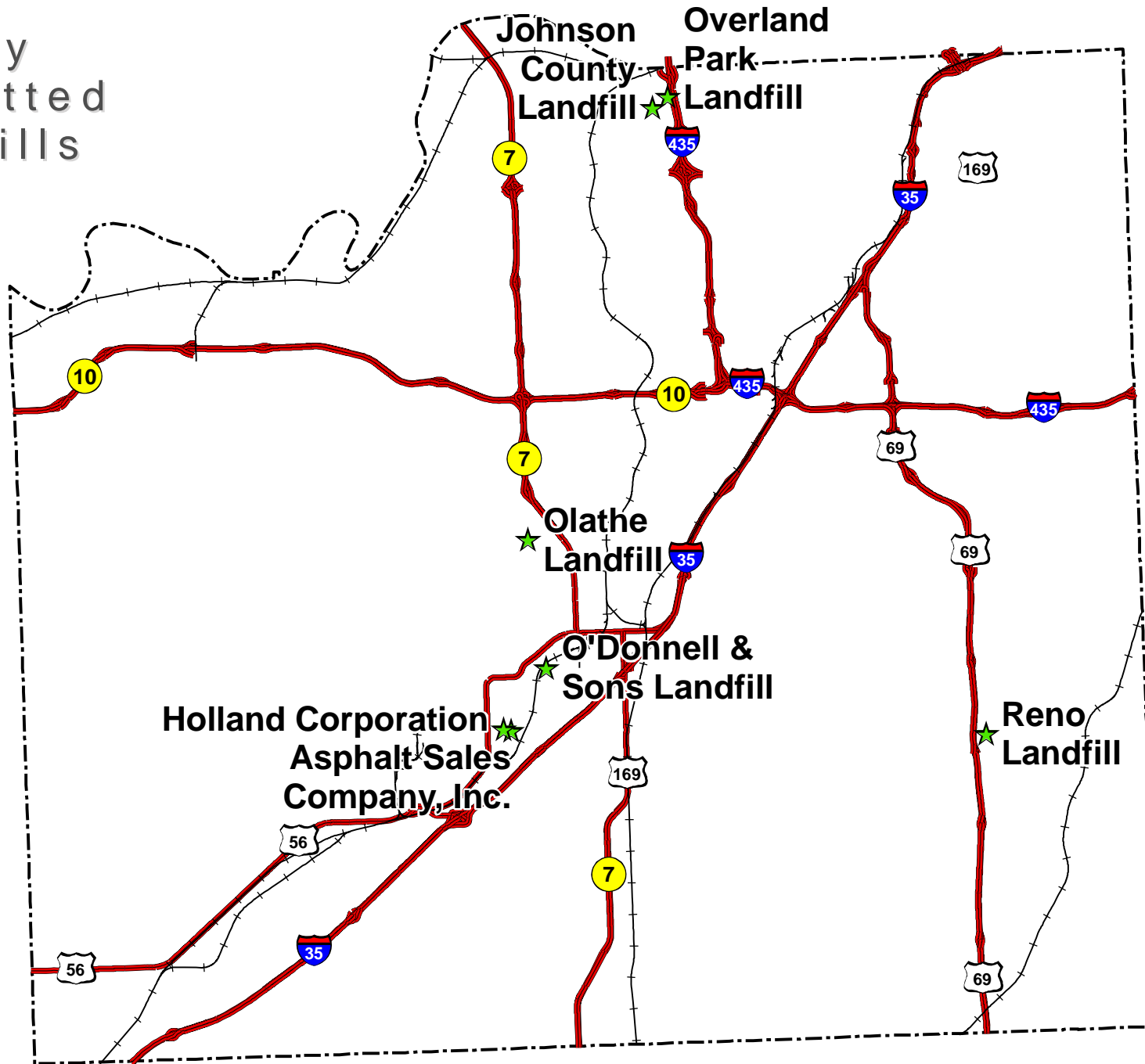
- Construction Materials: Concrete block and other building materials can be ground and used for other purposes. Construction materials and wood can be shredded to reduce volume.

**ULTIMATE DISPOSAL SITE:** Decisions on an ultimate disposal site (or sites) will be based upon the type(s) of debris involved, the proximity of existing public or private landfills, and any restrictions or capacity limits on their use.

**CLOSING TEMPORARY DEBRIS STAGING & REDUCTION SITES:** Prior to returning temporary debris staging & reduction sites to their previous use, all federal, state and local environmental requirements must be met:

- **Removable of Debris:** Sites must be cleared of all foreign materials introduced as a result of the incident.
- **Environmental Assessment:** An environmental assessment or audit may be conducted by the Environmental Department, Kansas Department of Health & Environment and/or the Environmental Protection Agency to establish the need for a testing or monitoring program. This assessment should be done on ash, soil, ground & surface water.
- **Environmental Restoration:** Contamination may occur from petroleum spills at staging & reduction sites, or runoff from the debris piles, burn sites, and ash piles.

# County Permitted Landfills



April 12, 2005

Figure O -1