

**County Connection for Week of 08/08/2018**  
**By David Smitherman**  
**Pittsylvania County Administrator**

July introduced two new partners in the County's solid waste operations. Both of these firms, Joyce Engineering and SCS Consulting Engineers are bringing new ideas, strategies and tactics to the Landfill and collections operations, respectively. This week I'd like to tell you how SCS is helping us explore better and more convenient ways for you to dispose of garbage at our convenience centers and green box collection sites.

SCS Engineers is a national company that focuses on solid waste, and every aspect of managing garbage. They recently helped Rockbridge County improve solid waste operations, and are also working in Bedford County. We think they will do a great job for Pittsylvania.

Over the next few months, SCS will be assisting the County by creating a conceptual design for what Pittsylvania County's perfect convenience center will look like. They will also be developing a plan to retrofit our current convenience centers to be the best possible without sacrificing their functionality during the process. They will also be looking for sites in the northern end of the county to place convenience centers, based on population, traffic flow and other important metrics, in order to best serve the areas' citizens.

We believe this collaboration will help transform our current solid waste service into one that works well for all of our citizens as well as our landfill employees and contractors.

It will be a very involved process for both SCS and County employees. Already, we are tracking exactly how much solid waste comes in from each of our sites, noting particular issues with each site and which have the most unauthorized dumping.

One of the reasons we chose SCS was because of the creativity that their team brings to the table along with their true desire to make sure that they do everything they can to give each citizen quality service. Another reason we chose them is because they will help us work with you to make sure that citizens are educated about what they need to be doing and why. They will also be working with our site attendants to help make sure that our sites are running smoothly.

These site attendants should genuinely want to help our citizens and make life better for everyone, and are hardworking and conscientious. If this describes you and you'd like a part time job in customer service, I would encourage you to apply today. We also will be soon advertising for a Solid Waste Enforcement Officer that will patrol the County looking for those that choose to abuse our collection system. Please keep checking our website for this important position announcement.

These changes will take time. It will take the remainder of 2018 to start seeing improvements at our five pilot sites and many more months to implement the physical changes to make the sites more convenient. We know that there have been a lot of changes, and that there will continue to be more change until we achieve better sites. We ask for your support and patience.

Finally, here's my question for you, which I am asking at the end of each article I write. Is there something you'd like to see us change? Do you have suggestions for what we should add to our convenience centers to make your experience better? We want to know! The emails with your questions and comments have been great. Please keep them coming!