

**County Connection for Week of 10/31/2018**  
**By David Smitherman**  
**Pittsylvania County Administrator**

### **"Working to improve"**

The Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors and County Administration staff have our citizens best interest at heart and on their minds. When it comes to the solid waste operation, that means that we are always working on ways to improve the experience that our citizens have at our convenience centers, green box sites, and landfill. With that in mind, the solid waste committee made several motions on Monday evening to be put before the full board in November that will make your lives as our citizens easier.

One is a matter of changing our training plan for our site attendants to make our citizens more comfortable with getting their assistance and learning from them at the sites they care for. The next item they decided on was to remove the language about needing to have your trash in bags in order to put it in the compactor, in order to make it make more sense for the common user.

The final two items are a matter of money - regarding tires and out of county residents. On November 20, the full board will vote on whether or not they want to change the language regarding tires in the current solid waste ordinance. As you know, we do not accept tires at our green box sites or convenience centers. Right now, we also do not accept them at the landfill. However, for a small fee of \$3 per tire, the solid waste committee believes that it would be possible for the county to begin accepting tires at the landfill to be recycled. This fee would cover the cost of handling them, cleaning them out and taking them to wherever they need to go. It would also allow citizens to have somewhere to take them where they will not end up needing to be picked out of the landfill. This will save us time and money and give you an easy way to dispose of your tires that's doesn't involve them ending up on the side of the road.

The other item they decided to put to a vote is the possibility of offering out of county residents a chance to get a pass to dump garbage in our county - for a hefty fee of \$240.

Since we expect that most of these people will be bringing trash into our county anyway, that this will be a great way to make a little bit of money off of the few honest people who are using our services. It will also help us to bring in more trash to make our landfill more efficient without contracting with other localities and without overfilling our current landfill, thanks to the contractors that have helped us to improve the way that we are compacting trash.

We are still seeking site attendants for some of our pilot sites. You can apply on the county website or in person at the county administration building in Chatham you are interested in becoming a part of our solid waste team.

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? Do you have thoughts on any of these items? Share them with us!