



## A Day in the Life of Trash

### At a Glance:

Ever wonder what happens to your trash after it leaves the curb? Take the LCSWMA scavenger hunt to follow the trash journey after it leaves your home.

### You Will Learn:

- 1) What happens to your trash once it leaves the curb.
- 2) How trash becomes a resource in Lancaster County.
- 3) What happens to your trash at LCSWMA's facilities, including how we make energy from it and much more!

### To Think About:

- 1) How does LCSWMA reduce the amount of waste to a landfill?
- 2) What are a few ways LCSWMA protects the earth?

### Feedback:

We would love to hear your feedback! Please help us improve this activity by taking a short survey ([click here](#)).

### Learn More:

Interested in learning more about LCSWMA? Watch our additional educational videos on LCSWMA's [YouTube Channel](#).



# A Day in the Life of Trash: Background & Instructions

## Background:

LCSWMA (Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority) is a municipal authority in charge of managing recycling and trash for Lancaster and Dauphin Counties in PA.

We call trash “municipal solid waste” or “MSW” for short. It is our job to protect people and the environment as we manage the trash that people throw away, and we do some pretty cool things with it along the way.

LCSWMA owns and operates four facilities:

- 1) [Transfer Station Complex](#) (1299 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster)
- 2) [Lancaster Waste-to-Energy Facility](#) (1911 River Road, Bainbridge)
- 3) [Susquehanna Resource Management Complex](#) (1670 South 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Harrisburg)
- 4) [Frey Farm Landfill](#) (3049 River Road, Conestoga)

Together, these facilities make up our “Integrated System” that manages around 1 million tons of solid waste each year. Through this process, we also create renewable energy that powers the equivalent of 1 in 5 areas homes... all from the trash you throw away!

## Instructions:

- 1) Visit LCSMWA’s website at [www.lcswma.org](http://www.lcswma.org).
- 2) Click on the “**Facilities**” tab to start your scavenger hunt.
- 3) Review the Worksheet on Pages 3 – 4. Browse through all the webpages under “Facilities” to find the answers to your scavenger hunt. This may include watching the videos on the page, clicking on icons on the page, and exploring all sections of the pages. As you find the answers to the questions, record them in the appropriate sections.

# A Day in the Life of Trash: Worksheet [Part A]

## The Integrated System

The integrated system is a \_\_\_\_ step process in which we \_\_\_\_\_ waste into a \_\_\_\_\_.

What are the 4 steps in the Integrated System?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

The average American creates \_\_\_\_\_ pounds of waste per day and \_\_\_\_\_ tons of waste per year.

## Household Hazardous Waste Facility

The HHW Facility provides Lancaster County residents with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ disposal of household hazardous materials.

List 3 common household items LCSWMA accepts for free at our HHW facility:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

## Transfer Station Complex

The Transfer Station serves as the \_\_\_\_\_ location for haulers and residents delivering trash, construction waste, and certain recyclable material.

The trash is delivered to the Transfer Station by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Once the trash is loaded into LCSWMA \_\_\_\_\_, it is transported to one of LCSWMA's two \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ facilities, the \_\_\_\_\_ Landfill, or a private recycling facility.

# A Day in the Life of Trash: Worksheet [Part B]

## Lancaster Waste-to-Energy Facility

The majority of Lancaster County's municipal \_\_\_\_\_ is taken to the Lancaster WTE Facility, located in Conoy Township. This facility's primary purpose is to \_\_\_\_\_ combustible waste to create \_\_\_\_\_, reduce \_\_\_\_\_ volume, and save \_\_\_\_\_ capacity, provide \_\_\_\_\_ energy, recover \_\_\_\_\_, and create \_\_\_\_\_.

LCSWMA powers \_\_\_ in \_\_\_ area homes with the energy from combusting trash.

On average, the Lancaster WTE Facility operates at 99% \_\_\_\_\_ air emission limits set by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

## Frey Farm Landfill

Solid waste that cannot be recycled or burned for energy is delivered to the \_\_\_\_\_.

Material delivered consists of \_\_\_\_\_ material such as waste-to-energy ash and construction/demolition waste.

Landfill gas is captured and sent to a nearby plant, where it is combusted to create \_\_\_\_\_. It powers the equivalent of \_\_\_\_\_ area homes.

Two wind turbines are located on the property, and the electricity is sent to Turkey Hill Dairy, where there is enough power to create \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ gallons of \_\_\_\_\_.

The Frey Farm Landfill holds the best environmental record of any \_\_\_\_\_ in PA.