



Developing a Tribal Recycling Program

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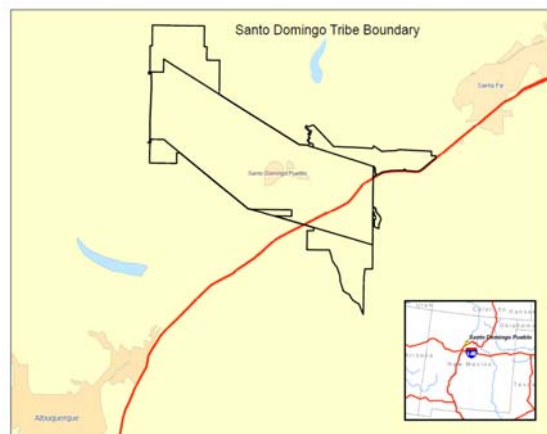
NM RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE CONFERENCE

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Santo Domingo (Kewa) Pueblo

- The Santo Domingo Pueblo (Kewa) is located within Sandoval and Santa Fe Counties.
- The SDP is approximately 30 miles north of Albuquerque and 25 south of Santa Fe.
- The Pueblo's land base consists of 92,682 acres.
- According to the latest census, total Tribal population is 5,136 members.
- There are approximately 637 homes throughout the Santo Domingo Pueblo.
- Non-gaming Tribe, Pueblo Gas Station, Kewa Café, and Convenience Store.



Background: Solid Waste Management on Santo Domingo Pueblo



- Practices in the past have varied from burning, burying, and illegally dumping household trash and other debris in open dumps (trenches).
- Established a Tribal Utility Commission to ensure safe drinking water, adequate sewage operations and consistent solid waste services.
- 1995 – all open dumps were mandated for closure on Tribal lands by the US EPA.
- 1996 – Santo Domingo Tribe officially closed and capped open dumps in accordance to the guidelines.



The 1997 Solid Waste Management Study

- 1997 – Solid Waste Management Study was conducted by the All Indian Pueblo Council's Pueblo Office of Environmental Protection.
- Study provided data regarding past and present practices and provided alternative options to open dump disposal practices based on a waste stream characterization.
- Monthly public meetings were held over a year to ensure community input and support was provided.
- Steering committee was established to oversee the development of the study and alternatives.

Alternatives evaluated:

- Landfill construction
- Transfer Station facility
- Curb-side collection
- Contract Services





Current Solid Waste Management



CURB-SIDE COLLECTION

- 1997 – Tribe passes resolution to implement curb-side collection.
- Using Indian Health Service (IHS) funding – refuse truck is purchased.
- October – residents who signed “Utility Service Payment Agreement” receive 90-gallon totes.
- Garbage collected from 397 homes
 - 213 “on account” for water & sewer only
- Garbage hauled to Sandoval County Landfill.

TRANSFER STATION

- Transfer Station opened soon after curb-side collection for the disposal of bulky items.
- Three 30-cubic yard bins for collection of scrap metal, scrap tires, and green waste.
- 30-cubic yard bins under contract with WM.
- WM transports and disposes of solid waste collected.
- Switch outs depend on amount of trash collected in a day/week.
- Residents pay a minimal fee.



U.S. EPA General Assistance Program Grant “Building Tribal Environmental Capacity”



- The Santo Domingo Tribe began receiving US EPA General Assistance Program (GAP) Grant monies since 2000 to begin establishing a Natural Resources office (estimation of grant funding).
- Since 2000, the SDT has worked to build capacity of a Natural Resources Department – focusing on program development in emergency response, solid waste, air and water quality.
- Previous solid waste priorities according to work plan activities FYs 2000-2014:
 - Improve Compliance with Integrated Waste Management Plan
 - Illegal Dump Clean-ups and Prevention
 - Develop Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal Program for SDT
 - Draft/Develop ISWMP
 - Continued Clean-up of Illegal Dumpsites
 - **Development of a Waste Diversion Program – Recycling**



Where Diverting Waste Began?



- FY 2010 – GAP Grant Component #1: Solid Waste and Recycling
- FY2011 – GAP Grant Component #3: Environmental Education Outreach
- FY 2012 – GAP Grant Component #1: Solid Waste
- FY 2013 – GAP Grant Components #1: Solid Waste Management Plan; #3: CC Housing; Component #4: Pollution Prevention (Recycling)
- FY 2014 – GAP Grant Component #2: Solid Waste/Recycling
- FY 2015 – GAP Grant Component focus changed and did not include recycling, although, recycling continued to take place within the community.
- FY 2016 – GAP Grant Component #5: Pollution Prevention (Recycling) – “Test Drive Program”
- FY 2017 – GAP Grant Component #3: Pollution Prevention (Recycling)

Santo Domingo Pueblo RECYCLES!!

- Drop-off Recycling: plastics (1-7), aluminum/steel/tin cans, cardboard, mixed paper, scrap tires, scrap metal, E-waste, cooking oil, motor oil, and white goods.
- Recycling Facilities Available: Bio-PAPPEL, Master Fibers, Friedman’s, Capital Scrap, Buckman Road Recycling and Transfer Center.
- Old refuse truck (side-arm loader) has been cleaned out and is now the recycling truck.
- Recycling bin stations in the SDT departments/programs.
- Reuse Area located in the Transfer Station.
- Education and Outreach to the Santo Domingo Pueblo Community.
- “We are always looking at innovative methods to our approach to RECYCLING





Asqwali/Kuna'ah/Thank You



QUESTIONS??

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlQq8s90sTk>

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