

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
MARCH 8, 2022
8:00 AM**

The Meeting of the Cobb County Solid Waste Management Authority was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. in the second-floor meeting room of the Cobb County Building, 100 Cherokee Street, Marietta. Present and comprising a quorum of the Authority were:

Chairwoman Lisa Cupid
Commissioner JoAnn Birrell
Commissioner Keli Gambrill
Commissioner Monique Sheffield
Commissioner Jerica Richardson

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Cupid called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

County Clerk

1. To approve the minutes of March 9, 2021.

Motion by Cupid, second by Richardson, to **approve** the minutes of the March 9, 2021 Solid Waste Management Authority Meeting.

VOTE: **ADOPTED 5-0**

BOC Chair

2. To approve the election of officers of the Board of Directors of the Solid Waste Management Authority for 2022.

Motion by Birrell, second by Sheffield, to **approve** the election of the following officers for 2022:

- Lisa Cupid, Chairwoman
- Monique Sheffield, Vice Chair
- Chief Finance Officer to serve as the Authority's Secretary/Treasurer
- Clerk to the Commission as Clerk to the Authority

VOTE: **ADOPTED 5-0**

Sustainability, Waste, and Beautification

3. **To present an update by the Sustainability, Waste and Beautification Department regarding the operation of privatized facilities and the status of ongoing environmental programs.**

Johnathon Jenkins, Sustainability, Waste, and Beautification Director, introduced the following, who provided an annual update to the Board:

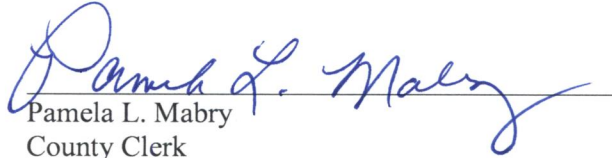
- **Transfer Station Update** - Brandy Evans, Green for Life, Environmental Inc.
- **Recycling Center Update** – Will Howard, General Manager, WestRock Recycling
- **Vegetative Waste Recovery Update** - Mike Ellis, Operations Manager, TAG Grinding Services, Inc.
- **Beautification Update** - Kimberly White, Executive Director, Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc.

A copy of the presentation is attached and made a part of these minutes.

No official action was taken by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 a.m.


Pamela L. Mabry
County Clerk
Cobb County Board of Commissioners

Cobb County

Solid Waste Management Authority
March 8, 2022



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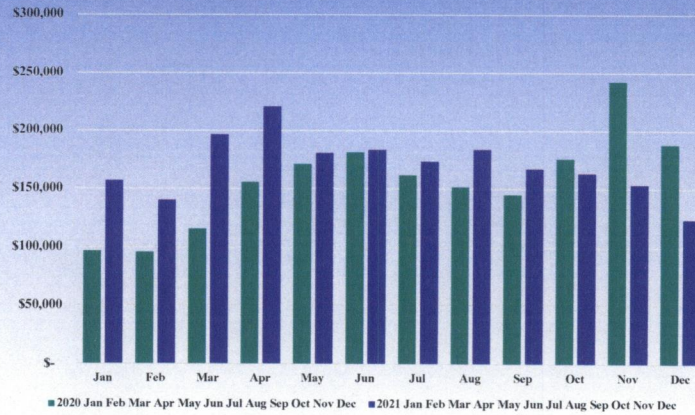
TAG Grinding Services, Inc.

Owners – Dennis Carey and Garland "Buster" Byrd Jr.
Operational Manager – Mike Ellis



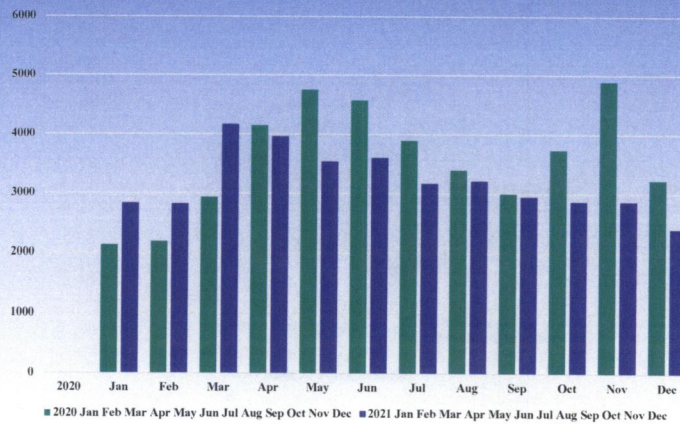
2

Income by the Month 2020 vs. 2021



3

Customer Count by Month 2020 vs. 2021



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Revenue & Customers 2020 vs. 2021

Total Revenue to TAG Grinding			
2020	2021	\$ Change	% Change
\$1,878,583.91	\$2,018,784.56	\$140,200.65	7%
7.5% Paid to Cobb County			
2020	2021	\$ Change	% Change
\$140,893.79	\$151,488.82	\$10,595.03	7%
Customers at TAG Grinding			
2020	42821		
2021	38316		

The question you might ask is why do we have less customers and more revenue?

Answer: We are getting much larger trucks and huge trees and tree parts

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TAG Grinding Services, Inc.

Markets we serve:

TAG Grinding Services, Inc. Markets			
Market	Location	Mileage	End Use
Piedmont Green Power	Barnesville, GA	88	Stand Alone Power Plant
Old Castel	Shady Dale, GA	88	Mulch Plant
Georgia renewable Power	Carnesville, GA	92	Stand Alone Power Plant
Georgia Renewable Power	Colbert, GA	92	Stand Alone Power Plant
International Paper	Rome, GA	60	Paper Mill Electricity Co Generation
Resolute Forest Products	Calhoun, TN	135	Paper Mill Electricity Co Generation
Westrock Paper	Stevenson, AL	146	Paper Mill Electricity Co Generation

TAG Grinding Services, Inc. is committed to 100% recycling of all products hauled out by either making green renewable electricity or mulch. The market at Old Castle in Shady Dale, GA makes colored mulch and sends it to Home Depot for resale.

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Dirt Pit 2021

2021	Load Count	Income	County 10%
FEB	485	\$ 31,525.00	\$ 3,152.50
MAR	578	\$ 37,570.00	\$ 3,757.00
APR	1013	\$ 65,845.00	\$ 6,584.50
MAY	386	\$ 25,090.00	\$ 2,509.00
JUN	410	\$ 26,650.00	\$ 2,665.00
JUL	640	\$ 41,600.00	\$ 4,160.00
AUG	1152	\$ 74,880.00	\$ 7,488.00
SEP	98	\$ 6,370.00	\$ 637.00
OCT	485	\$ 31,525.00	\$ 3,152.50
NOV	511	\$ 33,215.00	\$ 3,321.50
DEC	294	\$ 19,110.00	\$ 1,911.00
TOTAL	6052	\$ 393,380.00	\$ 39,338.00

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Recycling Value of Wood Products

TAG Grinding shipped, from its' Cobb facility, 5,255 tractor trailer loads of mulch in 2021. This equates to 139,302 tons.

Modern power plants can produce 1.2 mega watt hours of electricity per ton of wood. That being said, the Cobb facility was responsible for producing 116,085 mega watt hours of electricity.

In Georgia, the average home uses 3300 kilowatt hours of electricity.

The Cobb facility produces enough material to make power for 35,177 homes for one month.

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TAG Grinding Services, Inc. Questions & Comments



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Cobb County Transfer Station
2021 Summary



GO GREEN!

Green Today Green For Life | gflenv.com

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TRANSFER STATION

Recycling Activity Comparison

	2021		2020		Variance
Electronics	8.5	Tons	40.32	Tons	-31.82
Anti-Freeze	233	Gallons	133	Gallons	100
Batteries	4.84	Tons	22.50	Tons	-17.66
Metals	1064.16	Tons	1525.30	Tons	-461.14
Used Oil	7169	Gallons	5891	Gallons	1278
Tires	164.82	Tons	69.25	Tons	95.57

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OPERATIONAL COMPARISON 2020 / 2021

	2021	2020	Variance
Days open to citizens	308	310	-2
Tons hauled in	158,909	171,114	-12,205
Tons hauled out	156,625	162,071	-5,446
Total transactions	198,063	204,792	-6,729
Average tons per day	516	552	-36
Average transactions per day	643	661	-18
Total GFL Payments to Cobb County	\$60,665.61	\$69,410.07	



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GFL
Questions & Comments



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WestRock is a paper and packaging leader



- #1 North America Consumer Paperboard
- #2 North America Folding Carton
- #1 North America Merchandising Displays
- #2 Beverage Multi-pack Packaging
- #2 North America Containerboard
- #2 North America Corrugated Packaging
- #2 Brazil Corrugated Packaging

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We produce products you see and use everyday



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Who is WestRock Recycling?

We are one of the largest Integrated Recyclers in North America



19 recycling

facilities in 11 states and 3 geographical regions, processing 1 MM tons annually

- 5 Residential Single Stream Plants
- 4 Commercial Single Stream Plants
- 10 Traditional Paper Packing Plants



8.1 million

tons of recyclables recovered and managed annually



500+ employees

in 18 recycling facilities, sales and brokerage office, and WestRock mills



2.7 million

tons marketed globally, annually

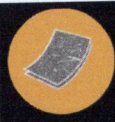


5.4 million

tons of recyclables consumed internally, annually

24 mills

consuming recycled fiber, globally



1.0 million

tons of recycled fiber generated at WestRock converting facilities annually and managed by WestRock recycling



400 thousand transactions annually

7 thousand supply points

2 thousand truckloads daily

www.westrock.com/recycling



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No-Charge Citizen Drop Off Center Activity

	<u>Calendar 2020 Tons</u>	<u>Calendar 2021 Tons</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Papers (Newspaper, magazines and mixed)	142.17	140.99	-.82%
Aluminum	5.45	5.41	-.07%
Cardboard	369.49	378.36	2.40%
Glass	423.51	381.32	-9.96%
Plastic	50.64	50.22	-.083%
TOTALS	991.27	956.30	-3.53%

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WestRock

Financial Impact to Cobb County

	<u>Calendar 2020</u>	<u>Calendar 2021</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Tonnage from Drop-Off Activities	991.27	956.30	-3.53%
Drop-Off Rebate Fee Payments	\$16,419.33	\$33,426.19	103.58%
Plant Tonnage from Other Recycling Activities	100,650.61	100,949.53	.03%
Host Fee Payments (\$2.50 per Ton)	\$251,626.53	\$252,373.83	.03%
Property Lease Payment (\$5,000/month)	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	n/a
Total WestRock Payments to Cobb County	\$328,045.86	\$345,800.42	5.41%

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Capital Investment: Before - Fiber Post Sort (manual)



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After - Fiber Post Sort (optical)



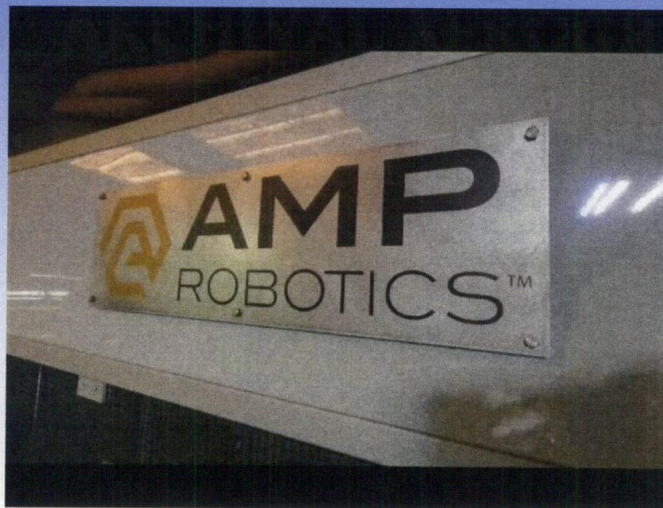
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Upgrade 2D/3D sorting (ballistic)



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State-of-the-Art Robotic Sorting



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Recycling Market Changes

Commodity	February 2021 Mkt Price/ton	February 2022 Mkt Price/ton	% Change
OCC	\$85.00	\$160.00	88.24%
Mixed Paper	\$30.00	\$75.00	150%
PET	\$180.00	\$555.00	208.33%
HD Colored	\$520.00	\$450.00	-13.46%
HD Natural	\$1,620.00	\$1,150.00	-29.01%
Plastics 3-7	\$0	\$0	0%
ALU	\$1,270.00	\$2,020.00	59.06%
Steel	\$172.15	\$305.00	77.17%
Glass	\$(39.50)	\$(29.50)	25.40%

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THE RECYCLING PARTNERSHIP | 2022 STATE OF CURBSIDE RECYCLING REPORT

Processing Fees \$/Ton 2021

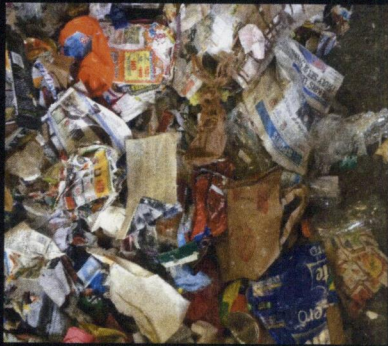
Average \$63.69
Median \$61.55

Processing Fees \$/Ton 2022

Average \$70.75
Median \$77.64

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Recycling Challenges?



- Continued new capital investments needed in new sorting machinery to keep up with changing quality standards for domestic and export consumption (changes ongoing)
- COVID-19 labor challenges on sort systems
- Mixed glass is still a part of the waste stream that's need's education to remove from the curbside program
- Looking at ways to increase recycling capture and reduce residue.

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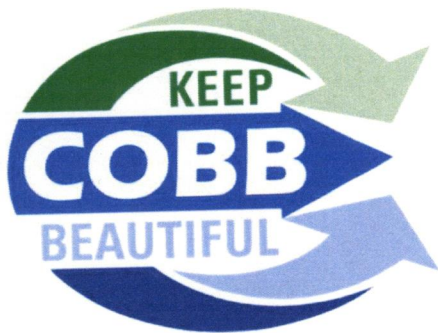
WestRock Questions & Comments



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- Keep Cobb Beautiful has several programs that uphold our mission and help us make an impact locally and improve Cobb County on a variety of levels.

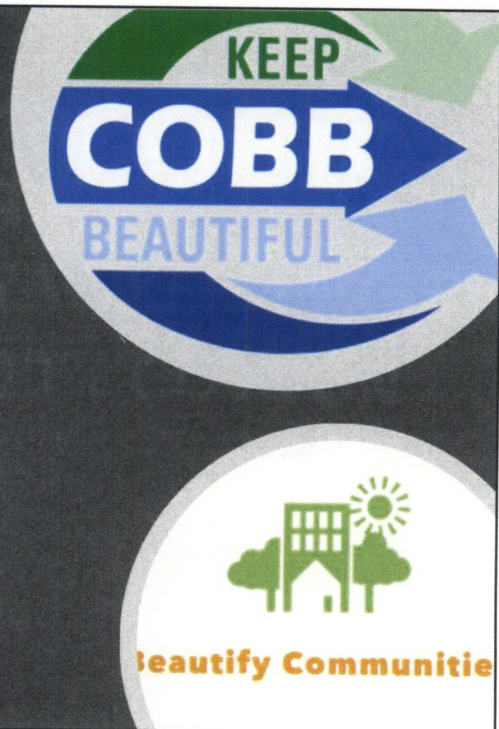
- Each program or event we provide fits under one of our main focus areas.

- **Focus areas:**

- 1 Litter Prevention
- 2 Community Greening/ Beautification
- 3 Waste Reduction and Recycling

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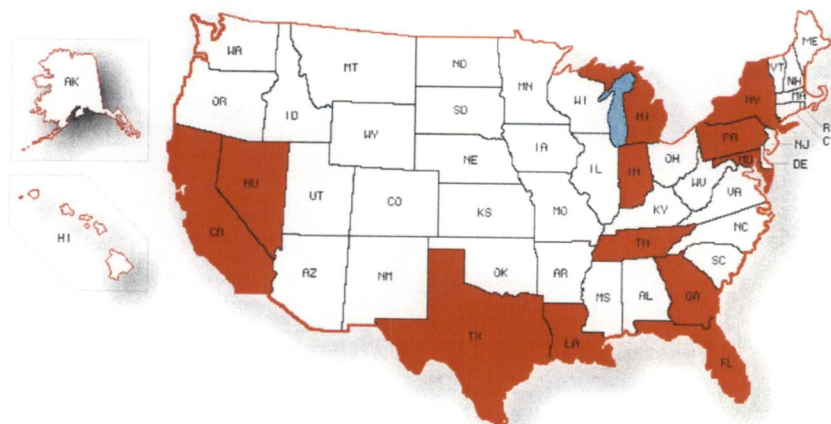
Education	Beautification & Community Greening	Recycling & Waste Reduction	Litter Prevention
Associate Board Members	Cobb Trees Program	Bring One for the Chipper	Adopt-A-Mile
School Enviro-Education Program	School Garden Grant Program 'Dig 'N The Dirt'	Hefty™ EnergyBag®	Litter Index Survey
Virtual Sessions/ Recycling Games	Great American Cleanup	Community Recycling Events	Community Cleanups
Cobb Library Education Series	Arbor Day & National Planting Day	Household Hazardous Waste Amnesty	KCB Crew Clean-Ups
Senior/Adult Hybrid Sessions	VISTA Program	Medication Disposal	Litter Pledge



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U.S. LITTER DATA

Earth Day 2020: STATES with BIG, MOST LITTER POLLUTED CITIES



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WASTE NOT

LITTERING STATISTICS



NATIONAL



75%

Percentage of people who have admitted to littering in the past 5 years

50%
Percentage of all littered items that are cigarette butts



250M tons

Total amount of trash that is generated each year in the United States



\$11.5B

Total amount spent on cleaning up litter yearly



9B tons

Total amount of litter that is dumped into the ocean every year



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Average amount of steps a person will hold a piece of trash before he litters



LOCAL

8 out of 10 motorists believe people litter because it is easier than saving trash to discard later

Most common items littered – cigarettes, fast food wrappers and aluminum cans

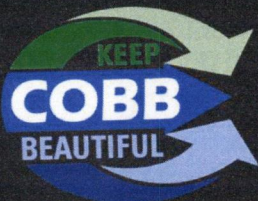
Over 4 days in April GDOT gathered 79,000 bags of litter, which equal the weight of 12 elephants

\$16 Million to remove litter from roadsides in Georgia – expected to rise by 20% annually

\$43 - \$129 per million gallons to clean drinking water from local water sources

Within 10 feet of receptacles litter drops to 12% from 20% with cans spaced further apart

Litter Index Survey Community Appearance Index



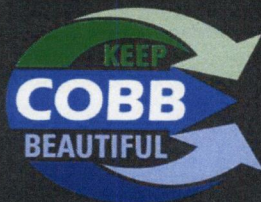
- The Litter Index Score is based on a rating scale of 1 (Best) – 4 (Worst)
- Average overall score is generated from the following categories:
 - Litter
 - Pedestrian Safety
 - Curbing
 - Illegal Signs
 - Graffiti
 - Tires

2021 Litter Index Score Chart Averages

Countywide Litter Index Score	1.71
District 1 Litter Index Score	1.88
District 2 Litter Index Score	1.96
District 3 Litter Index Score	1.51
District 4 Litter Index Score	1.50

2018	2019	2020	2021
Litter Score	Litter Score	Litter Score	Litter Score
1.58	1.68	1.76	1.71

Litter Prevention Plan



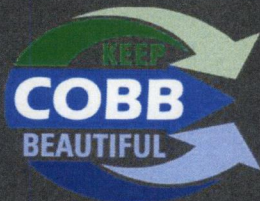
GREAT AMERICAN
CLEANUP
KAB.ORG



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Addressing Food Insecurity during the pandemic and beyond:

- Federal program (3-5 years)
- Joint effort between KAB and AmeriCorps
- Food insecurity zones
- Gardening education program
- Composting demonstration gardens



VISTA
Volunteers in Service to America

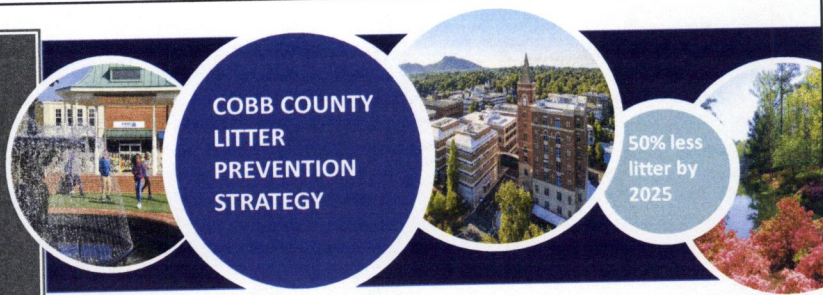


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ACCG Civic Affairs Foundation
2022 GCIP Grant recipient

Internship Program to Address:

- Focused litter prevention program
- Partnership with KAB
- Boundary roads that cross jurisdiction



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**KEEP COBB BEAUTIFUL IS OFFERING
FREE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
LESSONS AND ACTIVITIES**

Classes, virtual field trips, crafts
and hands-on projects for
classrooms, at-home learning,
libraries and other groups
.....
Lessons on recycling, gardening,
litter prevention, ecology,
pollinators, and much more!



Visit keepcobbbeautiful.org for more information, or email
keepcobbbeautiful@coobbcounty.org to schedule

Adult
SEASONAL GARDENING
7/29/21 @2pm

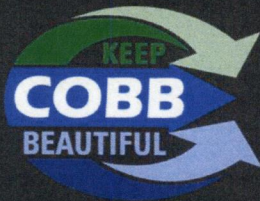
Join us at West Cobb Regional Library to learn
how to plan a seasonal garden, plus what to
plant right now!

Visit cobbcat.org/events to register

Virtual & Hybrid Sessions

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Annual Infographic



KEEP COBB BEAUTIFUL 2021 OVERVIEW

COBB COUNTY AT A GLANCE



KCB Litter Crew performed monthly clean-ups resulting in 2,971 bags collected

NUMBERS AND WEIGHT



PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

ADOPT-A-MILE
TOTAL GROUPS: 122
CLEAN-UPS PERFORMED: 500+
BAGS COLLECTED: 4,801

VISTA GARDENS
DIVERSITY DR. & FAIR LAKES GARDENS
planted shrubs, are tended and composted to provide FREE food and vegetables
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 518

VIRTUAL SESSIONS
Online efforts on anti-racism, recycling, composting, etc.
CLASSES / PARTICIPANTS: 27

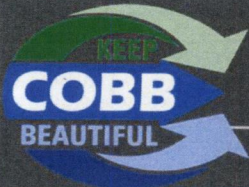
RECYCLING EVENTS
Household Recycling & More: 4/19/21
Medication Disposal: 6/24/21
Great American Clean-up: 9/20/21 - 9/27/21



318,809

Cobb County residents actively engaged in our recycling from PCB

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Non-Profit Update

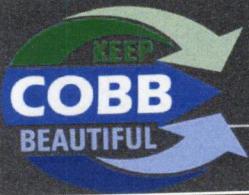
KCB, Inc. Board of Directors

Executive Committee

- Barry Krebs – Chair
- Harvey Williams – Vice Chair
- Erin Mulgrew – Treasurer
- Sharon Meinhardt – Secretary



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2021 Programs

Bring One For the Chipper

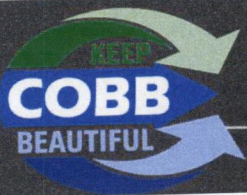
- Christmas tree recycling program
- 13,225 trees collected and mulched
- Distributed 200 Seedlings
- 124 Volunteers

Medication Disposal Days

- Partnership with U.S. DEA and Cobb PD
- 1,821+ lbs. of medication and pharmaceutical waste collected



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2021 Programs

Community Recycling Event

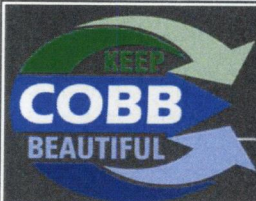
- One event held in 2021:
 - Paper Shredding – 92,000+ lbs.
 - Metal Collected – 21.93 tons
 - Electronics Collected – 14.51 tons
 - Hefty® EnergyBag® material collected – 741 lbs.
 - 206 volunteers, 2,375+ vehicles participated

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Amnesty

- KCB, SWB Department and Cobb Water System Partnership
- MS4 permit requires implementation of HHW collection
 - Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination
- Offered to Cobb County citizens
- 915+ vehicles in attendance
- 105,600+ lbs. of material collected
- Collected items included: paint, chemicals, batteries, etc.



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2021 Programs

Cobb Trees Program and Georgia Arbor Day

- Creating greener, more beautiful communities
- Celebrating the value and power of native species in restoring ecological balance
- Planted 250 trees/plants during program year

Dig 'n The Dirt

- Garden Grant Program now in 10th year!
- Purpose: To provide opportunities to school children through school gardens to experience and study nature
- Grant awards:
 - 5 schools, approximately \$3,140
- The program directly involves over 4,000 students
 - Program supported by:
 - Cobb County Government
 - Home Depot



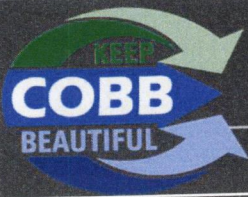
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Adopt-A-Mile Program

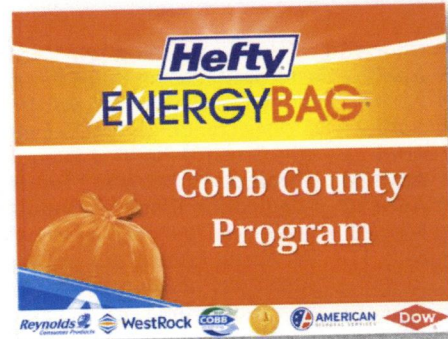
- 2021 – 866 volunteers / 8,383 volunteer hours
- 687,200 lbs. of litter collected
- 213.5 miles of streets/highways cleaned/adopted
- 2021 – 122 AAM Groups
 - 2020 - 143 AAM Groups
 - 2019 – 142 AAM Groups

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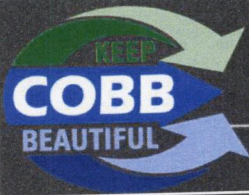


2021 Programs

- Nationally recognized – award winning program
- Phase III – Countywide program
 - Cities
 - Additional Haulers
 - Retail
- 70,901 lbs. of material collected
- Expansion of end-user markets
 - Diesel Fuel
 - Oil
 - Wax
 - Plastic lumber
 - Block aggregate
 - Hydro-Blok System



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County Recycling Locations



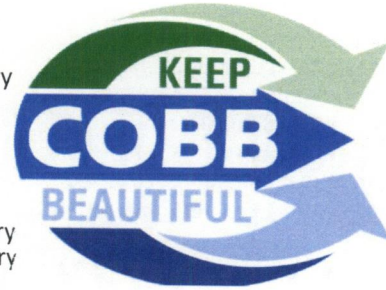
District One: 3858 Kemp Ridge Rd., Acworth
 District Four: 4700 Austell Rd., Austell

WestRock Recycling Center Customer Drop-Off
 1775 County Services Pkwy, Marietta

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Upcoming Events

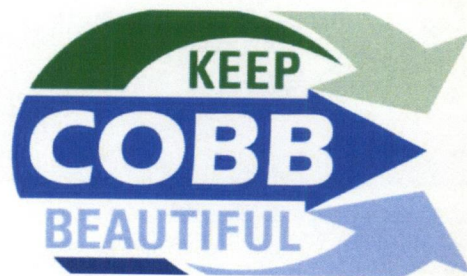
- March 14 – “Herb Gardening” w/ West Cobb Regional Library
- April 2 – Taste of Mableton KCB Tabling Event
- April 5 – “Vegetable Gardening” w/ West Cobb Regional Library
- April 9 – D4 Districtwide Clean-Up Event
- April 22 – KCB Orchard Planting Event @ Fair Oaks Garden
- **April 30 – Community Recycling Event @ Civic Center**
- **April 30 – Medication Disposal Event @ Civic Center**
- May 30 – “Greener Cleaning” w/ West Cobb Regional Library
- May 31 – “All About Pollinators” w/ West Cobb Regional Library
- June 7 – “Butterflies of Georgia” w/ West Cobb Regional Library
- June 9 – “All About Pollinators” w/East Cobb Regional Library
- June 13 – “Going Green in Daily Life” w/ East Cobb Regional Library



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2021 Cost Benefit

- Specially trained to provide litter prevention strategies and recycling programs
- Total volunteers: 6,172
- **Total benefits: \$1,267,049.05**
- Cost/Benefit Ratio: \$25.43



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Innovating Into the Future

- Mini CHaRM Center
- Adopt-A-Green Spot Program
- Targeted Recycling Programming
- County Facility Recycling Program
- Glass Recycling Drop Spots (Gumpsters)
- Big Belly Containers for high pedestrian areas
- Increase Beautification & Environmental efforts
- Increase access to recycling countywide
- Overall presence of litter decreased by 50% by 2025
- Cobb County strategic sustainability plan
- Recognition of county sustainability heroes

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Final Questions & Comments

