



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND MANAGER

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News Release

Commissioners Vote to Leave Sun Valley Drop-Off Site Open *Increase Garbage Disposal Fees*

September 27, 2011, Monroe, NC – The Union County Board of Commissioners have approved an increase in garbage disposal fees to 75 cents for bags over 13 gallons at all Solid Waste drop-off sites in the county.

During its FY2011-2012 budget deliberations, the Board of County Commissioners decided to close the Sun Valley drop-off site, reduce the hours of operation at the New Salem drop-off site to Saturdays only and increase the cost to dispose of garbage at all sites to 50 cents for bags over 13 gallons because of an operation deficit of \$98,000. The disposal fee for bags up to 13 gallons would remain 25 cents. These changes were scheduled to take effect Oct. 1.

At its Sept. 6 meeting, commissioners requested that Public Works perform a fee analysis to determine if increasing the garbage disposal fee from 50 cents to 75 cents would eliminate the current operation deficit. The analysis revealed that charging a 75 cents disposal fee for bags over 13 gallons and up to 55 gallons would eliminate the operation deficit if the fee is in place for an entire year and the sites experience no decrease in use by the public.

The fee increase and reduction in hours at the New Salem to Saturdays will now occur on Nov. 1. The Sun Valley drop-off site and all other drop-off sites in the county will continue to operate on their normal schedules.

“With this fee change, which is the first change in many, many years, the County will continue to be able to provide this important service to our citizens,” said Commissioner Todd Johnson. “We will evaluate the waste stream in the future to make sure it is adequate to cover the cost of this service.”

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