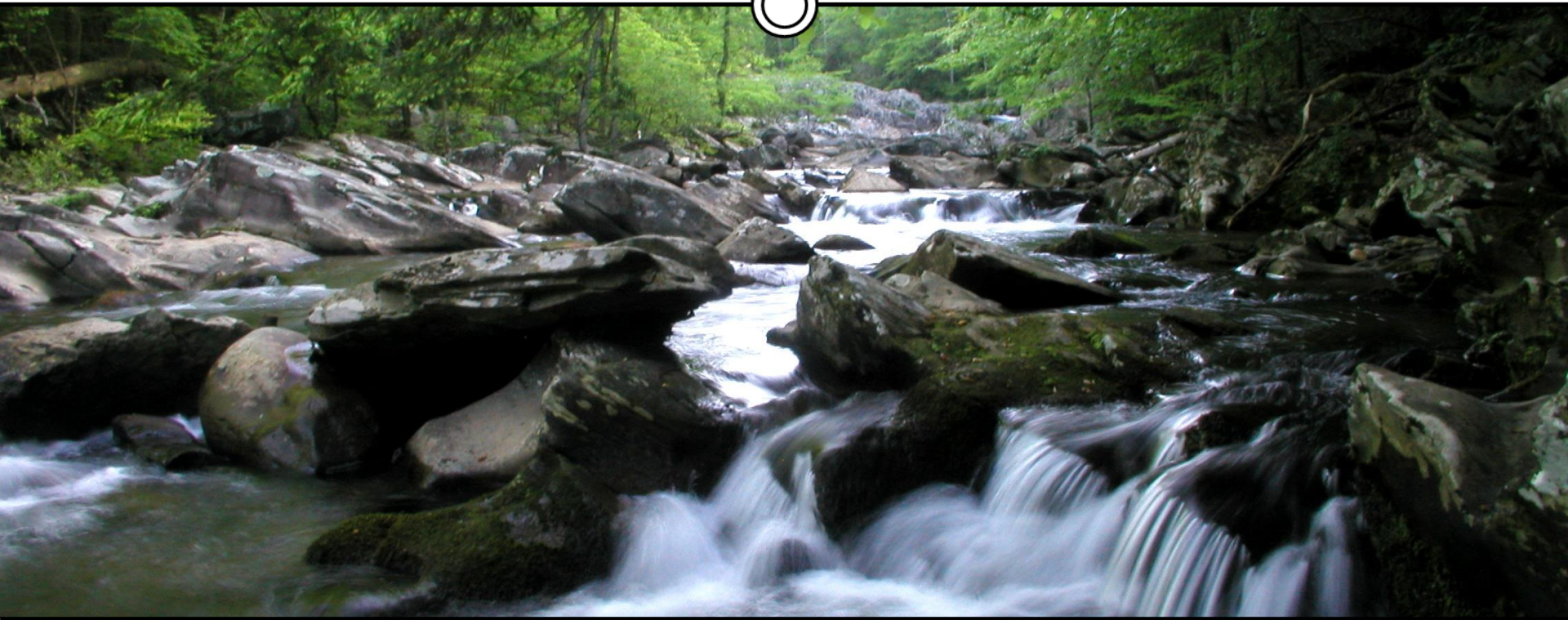


Power Agenda



Overview of Presentation

- Solid Waste Disposal in Georgia
- **Solid Waste Issues**
- Why Focus on Organics?
- **Solid Waste Goals**
- Regulations and Permitting
- **Compost Infrastructure**
- Barriers

Solid Waste Disposal

More than 17.2 millions tons are disposed in GA each year

National average is 4.6 lbs/person/day

Georgia average is 7.5 lbs/person/day

Reasons: Cheaper

No serious push outside metro Atlanta

Solid Waste Issues

Total landfill capacity is 26 years

Tipping fees is ~ \$25-30/ton vs \$70-75/ton
in the Northeast

No one wants a landfill in their
neighborhood

Building landfill in remote location only
increases pollution (travel time)

Solid Waste Act



In 1996, the Act was revised to place a ban on yard trimmings.

“Yard trimmings” includes: leaves, brush, grass, clippings, shrub and tree prunings, discarded Christmas trees, nursery and greenhouse vegetative residuals, and vegetative matter resulting from landscaping development and maintenance other than mining, agricultural, and silvicultural operations.

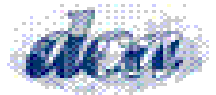
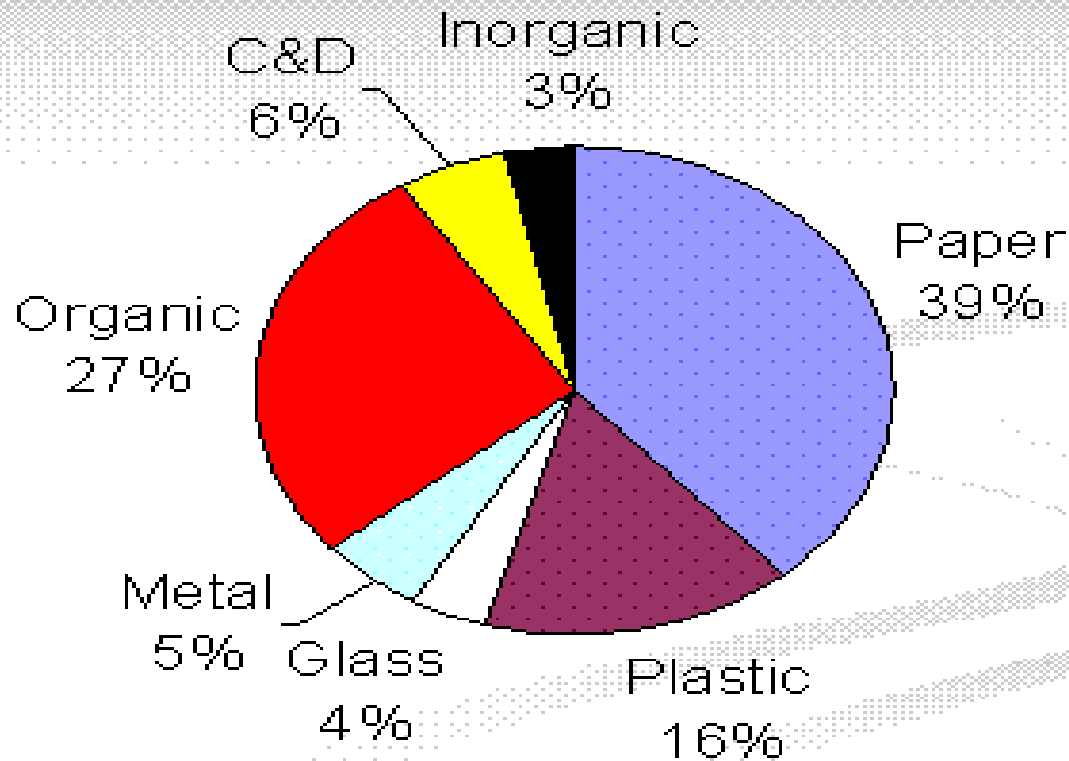
Several attempts have been made to remove the ban.

The total generation of yard trimmings is estimated to be

1,195,564 tons per year.

Composition of Material Disposed

Composition of MSW Disposed



Solid Waste Goals



Goal 1: Significantly *reduce* the amount of solid waste that has to be disposed

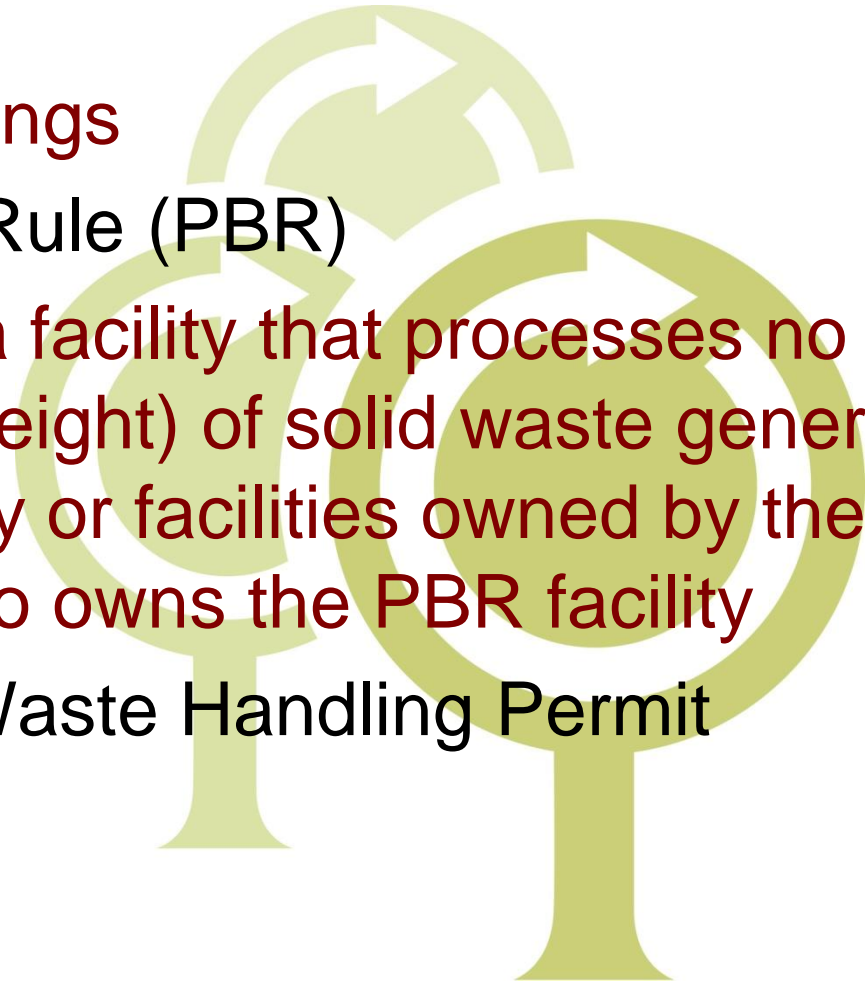
Goal 2: Ensure safe management of solid waste to protect human health and the environment



Types of SW Permits for Composting



- Exempt
- Yard trimmings
- Permit-By-Rule (PBR)
- Applies to a facility that processes no less than 75% (by weight) of solid waste generated at the PBR facility or facilities owned by the same person who owns the PBR facility
- Full Solid Waste Handling Permit



Solid Waste Regulations

Solid Waste Handling Permit for processing is required if:

- Solid waste such as garbage, food industry by-products, industrial or municipal sludge, or solid waste other than yard trimmings are being composted

Barriers to Composting in Georgia



- Lack of markets
- **Low landfill tipping fees**
- Logistical issues
- **Feasibility of locating site near feedstock**
- Obtaining Solid Waste Handling Permit
- **Lack of compost awareness**

Source: UGA Compost White Paper, 2003

Questions



We are here to help!

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