Waste Management for our Family Islands

Facts about current waste management

Unlined small “dumps” close to each settlement

Plastics, paper, cardboard, food & green waste, sewage, nappies, PPE, everything is dumped

Windblown garbage scatters across nearby roads, in da bush, smoke drifts into settlement

Sewage material is often sprayed on top of garbage, full of pathogens, hormones, discarded drugs

Open air burning then creates toxic fumes which poison humans and the environment

Unburnt material pushed into the bush or wetlands to make room for new garbage

Decaying food & green waste creates leachate a liquid that goes into our water table poisoning our wells

Decaying waste also produces methane that contributes to Global Warming

No recycling, composting or re-use, many valuable materials going to waste

What can we do?

Start separation of glass, plastics #1, #2, #5, cardboard, food & green waste at household level

Supply bins at the local dumps for each of those materials creating a Transfer Station

Choose strategic settlements to set up machinery for processing of materials for recycling

Create management system to maintain machinery & depots, organize transport and train personnel

Analyze composition of population and create fair payment system based on ability to pay and waste generated

Convince our Government that waste management is not a political tool and should be reliable, environmentally responsible and consistent both for Bahamians and Visitors

Convince our Government that good waste management will attract more investment, more visitors and more carbon credits

Ongoing efforts

Educating our Fellow Bahamians and Visitors about reducing waste, separating recyclates and using the facility correctly

Installing signage at Airports, along roads, in Public places, distribute leaflets that explain our waste management system and our desire to keep our environment clean, green and pristine

Remind Visitors that the reason they are coming here is to enjoy our clean, pure air, sea and land so help us keep it that way

Teach kids from kindergarten and up that this is their land and they must cherish and look after it and it will look after them