



# Okanogan County

## Department of Public Works

1234-A Second Avenue South  
Okanogan, WA 98840

Josh Thomson, P.E.  
County Engineer

Ben Rough  
Administrative Officer

*mgw - municipal green waste  
(retain in Methow)*

### Apple Maggot Quarantine Area Upper Methow Valley

Process Recap: Public Works submitted an application to WSDA allowing transport of MSW across quarantine boundary. The application will not be approved until WSDA defines MGW and Okanogan County confirms how MSW & MGW will be separated. WSDA will begin the apple maggot comment period in the near future. The public hearing is scheduled for July 19.

Upon implementation, MGW is restricted similar to hazardous waste, asbestos, car batteries, etc.

### Definitions

- MGW (municipal green waste) restricted from transport, processing required
- MSW - (municipal solid waste) unrestricted from transport, no processing required

### Recent Activity & Communication

MGW definition has been in flux. The definition directly impacts operational changes with Okanogan County, commercial haulers (WasteWise), and customers

- 1<sup>st</sup> definition: Woody Debris
- 2<sup>nd</sup> definition: Food Waste & Woody Debris
- Changing definition led to concerns regarding the scope of changing operations

### Meeting with WasteWise & WSDA - May 24

- Discussed and confirmed operational conflicts
- WasteWise: additional routes, increased expense, decreased revenue
- Okanogan County: Processing large quantities of MGW prior to transport, possible compost facility, expensive to build and operate
- Insufficient time to implement a strategy and change operations

### Follow-up conversation with WSDA Pest Program Manager Jim Marra - May 30

- Restrictions should be consistent with Chelan & Lincoln County (restrict woody debris only)
- WSDA educational flyers only restrict woody debris, yard waste, raw homegrown fruit
- WSDA verbal confirmation to refine definition: woody debris, yard waste, raw homegrown fruit
- We are seeking written confirmation

### WSDA's primary concerns

- Keeping MGW out of the MSW waste stream
- Enforcement and Education

### Proposal to County Commissioners

- Accept woody debris, yard waste, contaminated soil - separated by customer
- Do not accept raw homegrown fruit

*unprocessed*

*of waste stream. Can reconsider later.  
CB - how separable home grown from commercial?*

*- Begin ~~process~~ procedure as  
soon as possible to get people  
need to agree to a definition  
need to get WSDA to  
agree to a definition*