

# Maryland Tax Education Foundation

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Jeff Hooke 703-761-4591

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **Montgomery County's Solid Waste Disposal System Wastes Millions Every Year**

**WHO:** **Jeff Hooke**, an investment banker and author, and **David Curry**, economist. They are Chairman and Senior Fellow, respectively, of the **Maryland Tax Education Foundation**, a non-profit organization providing information and education programs about Maryland taxes. Both reside in MD.

**WHAT:** **Study on Montgomery County Waste Disposal System** by David Curry

.By following the report's recommendations, the county can save **\$22 million** annually, without damaging the effectiveness of waste disposal or the environment in the County. The report's findings were covered in the **Washington Examiner** daily newspaper. Other findings include:

- The County should close the money losing "white elephant" incinerator at Dickerson.
- Through unfair disposal fees and waste disposal taxes, County homeowners subsidize businesses, apartment rental building owners and condo dwellers. By allocating charges fairly, homeowners save \$75 per year.
- Every single family property is charged \$175 annually, yet 60% of the homes do not use county collection, and must hire private collectors at additional cost. For this 60%, annual collection charges are 48% higher than Fairfax County in Virginia.
- "Waste disposal and recycling are costing the County over \$90 million annually, said David Curry, "our costs are totally out of line with other counties."
- "There is no reason why the Council and County Executive can't improve the system and save money," added Jeff Hooke, " this isn't rocket science."