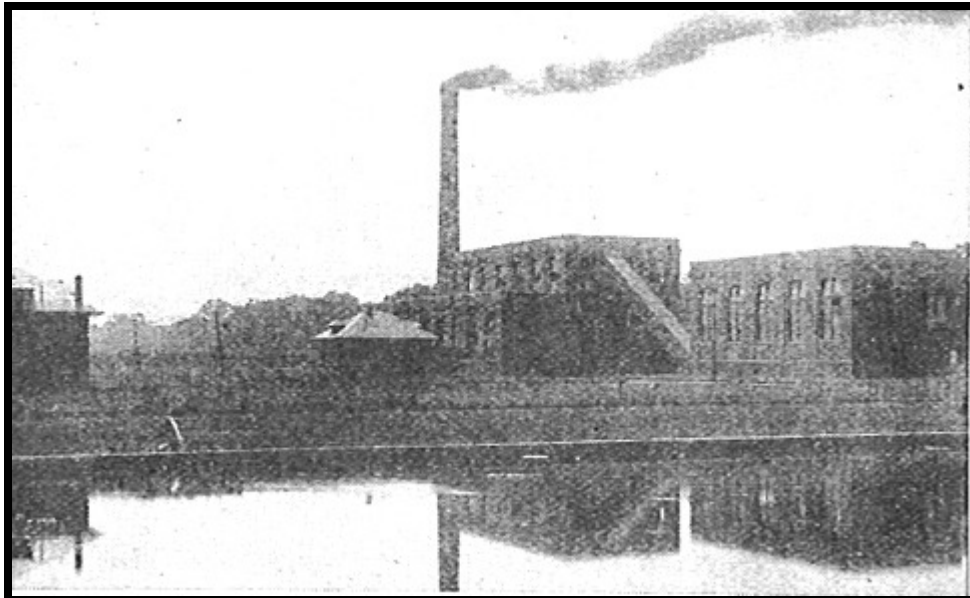


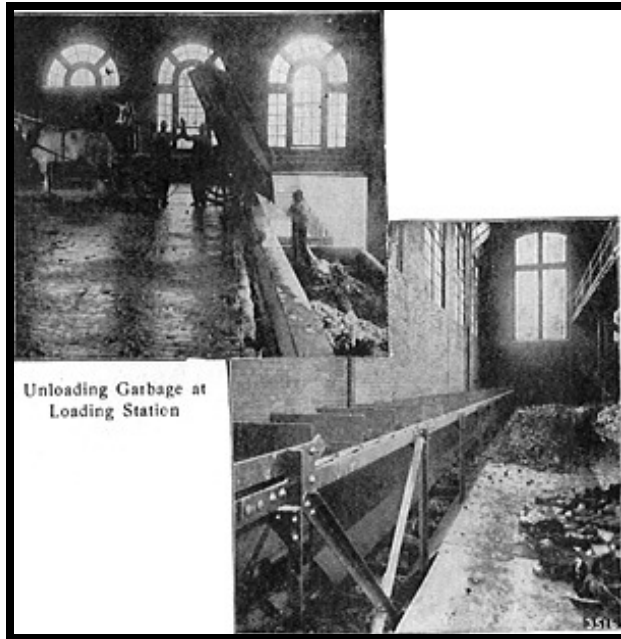
History of the Division of Refuse Collection

1906 The Department of Garbage and Refuse Collection was established when the contract with a private collection company expired. All garbage, ashes, and manure were collected by hired teams of horses and buried in ditches on the English farm.

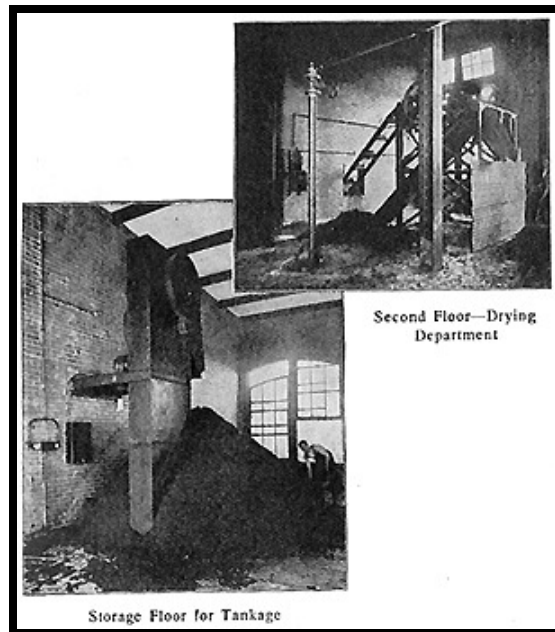


1910 The Municipal Reduction Plant was placed in operation. All garbage collected was hauled to the unloading station located on Short Street, dumped into railroad cars, and hauled to the plant by the Hocking Valley Railroad Company.



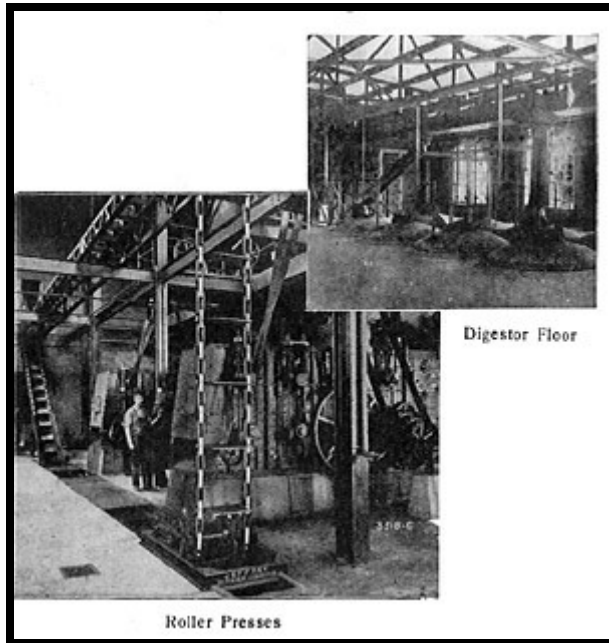


Unloading Garbage at Loading Station



Second Floor—Drying Department

Storage Floor for Tankage



1911 The City began to purchase its own teams of horses to replace the hired teams; rubbish collection was established.

1912 The City Dog Pound was established and placed under control of the Department.

1913 A special wagon was constructed for use on the Department's hotel garbage route, doubling the capacity of a regular wagon.



1916 Grease was sold to soap manufacturers; tankage was sold as a fertilizer; hides and manure were sold in an effort to offset operating costs.



1936 An incinerator was opened on Short Street. All burnable refuse was sent there; rubbish was sent to the dump near Shadeville.

1947 The Department purchased 15 new garbage packer trucks.



1960 The Department name was changed to the Division of Sanitation; uniforms were purchased for its employees for the first time.



1965 The Short Street incinerator was closed; the Third Avenue landfill opened for use and was operated by the Division.

1967 The Model landfill located on Jackson Pike was opened.

1973 The Division began to provide front loading box service to apartment buildings; gradual replacement of rear loading dumpsters began in an effort to reduce operating costs and to provide safer collection.



1975 Three transfer/pulverized stations were opened, one on Alum Creek Drive, Georgesville Road, and Morse Road; a new routing system was implemented; the first manual side loader was put into operation.





- 1978** The Division conducted a pilot semi automated collection, using 82-gallon (hurbie-curbie) carts.
- 1980** The Division conducted a pilot, using a fully automated 300-gallon collection system in the Near Eastside.
- 1982** The Division discontinued collection of the cubic yard containers from private businesses and the collection of dead animals from veterinarians and laboratories.
- 1983** The Municipal Trash Burning Power Plant began operation under the Division of Electricity.
- 1984** The Division's name was changed to the Refuse Collection Division; a rotating collection schedule was implemented to reduce overtime costs; the 1st Annual Refuse Collection Ball was held; the first 300-gallon automated routes were implemented.



1985 The Model landfill was closed; the new Franklin County Landfill opened on State Route 665; the first 90-gallon automated route was implemented.



1986 The pulverizer operations were transferred to the Division of Electricity; the Division introduced the color-coded system for curb and alley collection.



1987 The Customer Service Center was set up to centralize resident inquiries, complaints, bulk scheduling and dead animal collection.

1988 A recycling pilot project began to study the feasibility of instituting a voluntary curbside recycling program; the conversion to front load boxes was completed.



1991 A successful yard waste pilot program was introduced to conserve landfill space, and to improve operation of the Solid Waste Reduction Facility. Over 50 tons of leaves in biodegradable paper bags were collected and composted; Columbus Clean Community (CCC), a Keep America Beautiful affiliate, was integrated into the division in 1991. CCC provides a coordinated and focused approach to solid waste education, litter prevention, and recycling. CCC coordinated the Glad Bag-A-Thon neighborhood cleanup collecting 237.5 tons of refuse.



1992 A successful leaf composting pilot program was introduced to conserve landfill space, improve operation of the Solid Waste Reduction Facility, and to help prepare for the elimination of land filling yard waste due to House Bill # 592. A total of 1,217 tons of yard waste was collected through a joint effort by the Refuse Collection Division and the Division of Engineering and Construction

1993 Pulverizer operations were transferred to the newly formed Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO).

1994 The Division conducted a co-collection Blue Bag Recycling pilot project from June through December 1994. Over 80 tons of materials were collected and recycled during the 31 week program. An additional 159.5 tons of material were recycled through NRT Removal System at the Mid-America Waste System's material and recovery plant in Canal Winchester, over a period of 23 weeks during the program. The total material recovered, represented a 9.24% diversion of waste from the pilot area.

1995 Contracts were awarded to Rumpke Waste Systems to provide weekly yard waste, subscription curbside recycling service, and drop-off recycling to Columbus residents beginning September 1, 1994. At year end, over 13,500 residents had subscribed to the subscription recycling service; the division sponsored six household hazardous (HHW) waste collections, during a six month period. The weekend events were coordinated by SWACO. Residents from over 3,200 Columbus households brought in over 213,000 pounds of HHW for proper disposal.

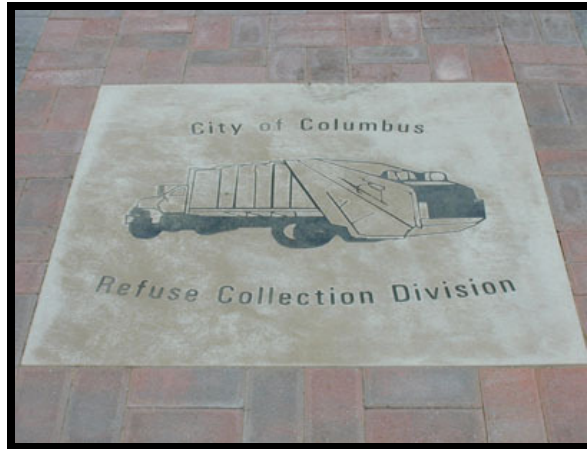


- 1996** Columbus Clean Community's name was changed to Keep Columbus Beautiful.
- 1997** Doris the Recyclasaurus became the newest mascot of the Keep Columbus Beautiful program, promoting recycling and environmental awareness.
- 1998** German Village, the last neighborhood with manual refuse collection service, was converted to 90-gallon semi-automated collection. Trucks equipped with a tipper container lifting system are used for collection.
- 1999** The City offers collection of compactor boxes to multi-family properties, using roll-off collection trucks; a pilot study was conducted using radio frequency identifier chips and scanners on the trucks to gather collection information.



- 2000** Mayor Coleman dedicated the Refuse Collection Memorial Walkway & Garden, located at the Division's Alum Creek Drive facility. The walkway serves as a tribute to all retired and deceased Refuse Collection Division employees.





2001 In January, the City of Columbus created its first year round Graffiti Program, to address the growing problem of graffiti on public property.



2002 The division purchased its first knuckle boom truck, used to collect bulky items and large piles of debris using a single operator.



2006 The division was recognized by City Council for 100 years of service.



2009 The division put its first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) powered truck into service.



2011 The division put its first Hydraulic Launch Assist (HLA) assist truck into service. HLA technology is designed to improve both fuel efficiency and overall operating economy of vehicles.

