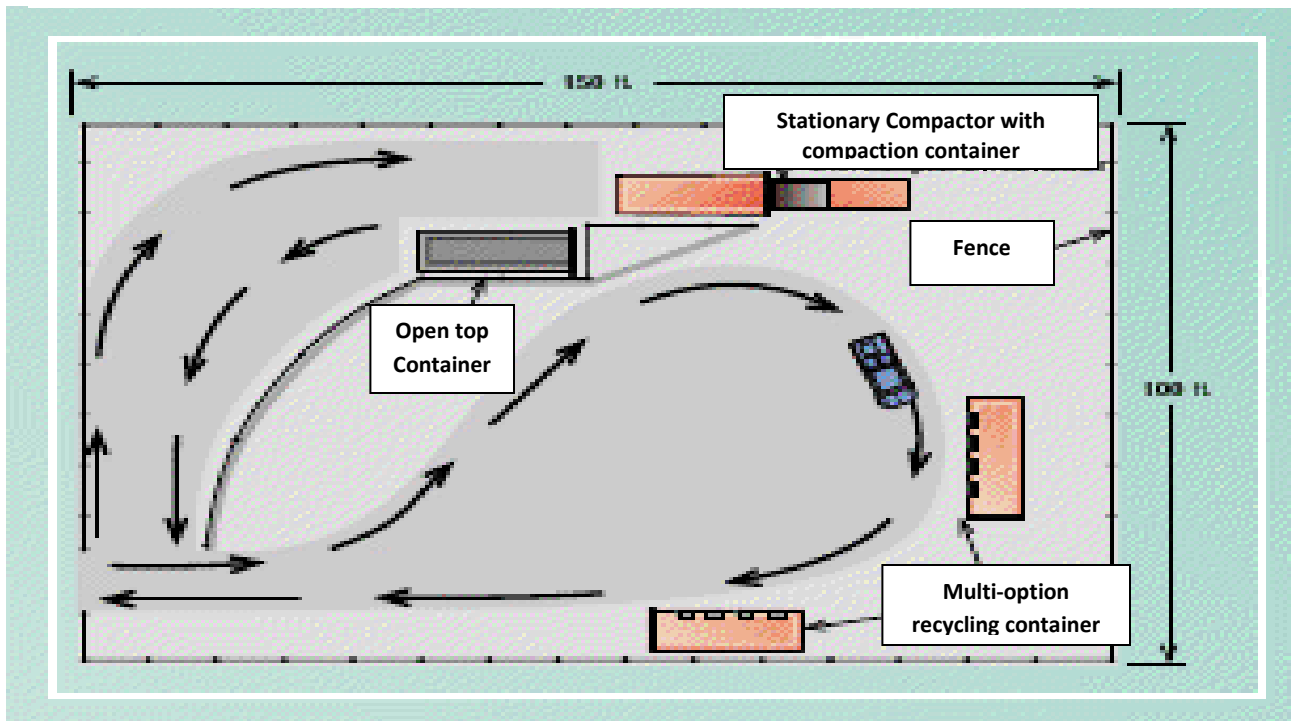


Solid Waste Convenience Centers

Solid Waste Convenience Centers are trash and recycling drop-off stations that accept a variety of residential solid waste, recycling material and yard waste for proper disposal. Waste from private contractors or businesses is not accepted. Convenience centers provide a safe, easily accessible site for local residents to dispose of trash. With fences and an attendant, unauthorized use of the site can be prevented. The attendant can also monitor materials being deposited. The convenience center may contain equipment to include trash compactors, open bins for collection of metal, wood, green waste, appliances, electronic waste, C&D and bulk goods, used oil igloos and recycling containers.

Figure 1: Typical Convenience Center Layout



All centers need a suitable site, perimeter fencing, gate(s), access roads for vehicles, attendant building, and storage facilities. Location of the convenience center site is extremely important. As its name implies, the center should be located in an easily accessible area convenient for citizens to find and use. A site from one to three acres should be sufficient. It is better to buy more land than necessary to form a buffer zone and provide room for expansion; to do so later may be difficult.

At least one wide, rolling gate and fencing around the entire perimeter of the convenience center is needed to provide security and prevent blowing material from leaving the site. A six-foot chain-link fence topped with barbed wire is recommended, although wooden fences provide privacy and other useful functions. Access roads need to be all-weather roads capable of supporting the heavy vehicles used for transporting wastes. The size of the attendant building will vary depending on the number and tasks of the attendants. Storage pads must be large enough and durable enough to accommodate numerous appropriate containers.