

Solid Waste Management District

2015 Plan Fact Sheet

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's 2009 State Solid Waste Plan states that County Solid Waste Plans meet the following eight out of the nine goals (8 is optional) to minimize waste in their county. The District will meet the goals by completing the directives under each goal:

1. **Infrastructure** – the SWMD shall ensure that there is adequate infrastructure to give residents and commercial businesses opportunities to recycle solid waste.
 - a. Updating the Service Provider Agreements between the District and the Erie County Haulers to provide curbside recycling to all Erie County Residents at no additional charge.
 - b. Maintain and update the Landfill Drop-Off Recycling Location.
 - c. Continue partnerships with communities and commercial businesses operating Drop-Off Recycling Locations.

2. **Waste Reduction and Recycling Rates** – the SWMD shall reduce and recycle at least 25% of the solid waste generated by the residential/commercial sector and at least 66% of the solid waste generated by the industrial sector.
 - a. The District currently meets this goal through curbside recycling, drop-off recycling locations and special collections. Once the updated Service Provider Agreements are established 100% of Erie County residents will have access to curbside recycling programs, thus increasing these recycling rates.
 - b. Annual reports to Ohio EPA state the tonnage of waste disposed of at the Erie County Sanitary Landfill and tonnage of recycling by residents, commercial businesses and industries. Those tonnages are used to show recycling rates. Tonnage is tracked by the following:
 - i. Erie County Haulers are required to turn in quarterly reports to the District that state tonnage of recycling by community.
 - ii. District programs are tracked with information through contractor.
 - iii. Industries submit an annual survey with waste disposal and recycling tonnages to the District.

3. **Outreach and Education: Minimum Required Programs** – the SWMD shall provide the following required programs: Web Site, Comprehensive Resource Guide, Inventory of Available Infrastructure and Speaker/Presenter.
 - a. Website: www.ErieCountyRecycles.org The website will be completely revamped in 2016.
 - b. Comprehensive Resource Guide: Can be found at <http://www.eriecounty.oh.gov/departments-and-agencies/environmental-resources/departments-of-environmental-services/recycling/how-what-where-to-recycle/>
 - c. Inventory of Available Infrastructure: Can be found at <http://www.eriecounty.oh.gov/departments-and-agencies/environmental-resources/departments-of-environmental-services/recycling/how-what-where-to-recycle/>
 - d. Speaker and/or Presenter: Contact the District at 419-433-7303 x2304 to schedule a presentation.

4. **Outreach and Education: Outreach Plan and General Requirements** – the SWMD shall provide education, outreach, marketing, and technical assistance regarding reduction, recycling, composting, reuse, and other alternative waste management methods to identified target audiences using best practices.
 - a. The Outreach and Education Plan can be found in Appendix K of the 2015 Erie County Solid Waste Management District Plan.
 - b. New Strategies include:
 - i. **New Strategies for School Recycling**

The District will be hiring an Environmental Education Intern and a Community Outreach Specialist. The Environmental Education Intern will be a year-long internship focusing on the target audience: Schools. The Environmental Education Intern will shift hands on activity boxes and Windows on Waste curricula to a technology based approach with SMART Software for SMART Boards for educators to download from the District’s webpage. The Environmental Education Intern will annually provide:

 - SMART Software updates
 - Create virtual fieldtrips
 - Update the District’s webpage
 - Provide environmental education programs to Erie County Schools
 - Facilitate a Teacher Workshop
 - Incentive based program to increase school recycling
 - ii. Commercial Businesses/Institutions/Industry Strategies: joint workshop with surrounding Solid Waste Management Districts to discuss waste audits and current recycling opportunities through current infrastructure.

iii. The District will be hiring a Community Outreach Specialist in 2016 to act as the liaison between the District and Institution/Commercial Business and Industries. The Community Outreach Specialist will be responsible for providing waste audits, feasibility studies and aiding the Institution/Commercial Business and Industries with:

- Set-Up/Improving Recycling Infrastructure
- Targeting a Specific Material
- Manufacturing with Recycled Products
- Energy Saving Projects
- Feasibility of the District Establishing a Revolving Loan Fund
- Surveys
- The District would like to offer a joint workshop with surrounding solid waste districts. The workshop would provide information on current Institution/Commercial Business and Industries recycling opportunities, and the above mentioned new opportunities.

iv. Residents and Communities Strategies: establish recycling rate standards and grade communities in a "Report Card". This will be used to create competitiveness to increase recycling rates.

c. District will continue to provide:

- i. Special Collections
- ii. Educational Programing
- iii. Visible at Events
- iv. Provide Tools – GREEN Bean Community Trailer, GREEN Pod (demonstrates solar power, green roof, and rain barrels), recycling containers to borrow.
- v. Outreach and Distribution through cable, flyers, social media, surveys, and water bills.

5. Restricted Solid Wastes, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronics –

The SWMD shall provide strategies for managing scrap tires, yard waste, lead-acid batteries, household hazardous waste, and obsolete/end-of-life electronic devices.

- a. HHW Collections – 5-1 day collections are held once a month from June – October on the last Saturday of the month. Residents must pre-register.
- b. Battery Recycling is offered at the following locations:
<http://www.eriecounty.oh.gov/departments-and-agencies/environmental-resources/departments-of-environmental-services/recycling/how-what-where-to-recycle/special-material-recycling/batteries/>
- c. Electronics Recycling – The District promotes Staples, Best Buy and Goodwill for electronics recycling.
- d. Lead Acid Batteries – The District promotes Galloway Brothers and Sandusky Steel for these services.

- e. Yard Waste – Barnes Composting Facility is the only facility that allows the public to drop-off yard waste materials. The District also promotes backyard composting and land application as alternative outlets for yard waste.
6. **Economic Incentives** – the SWMD shall explore how to incorporate economic incentives into source reduction and recycling programs.
- a. Curbside Recycling is the easiest way for residents to recycle and the District continues to promote these programs.
 - b. Pay-As-You-Throw: these programs promote only paying for services when they are needed and for the amount needed
 - c. Carts & Incentives – Carts allow for the hauler to use an automated truck and incentive based programs that reward a person for recycling.
 - d. Create an incentive program that fosters competition for haulers servicing Erie County.
 - e. Establish a report card that showcases recycling rates by community. The purpose is to foster competition between communities and increase recycling rates.
 - f. Revolving Loan Fund Feasibility - In partnership with Erie County Regional Planning create a Revolving Loan Fund to help these target audiences start a recycling program and/or address a specific material.
7. **Measure Greenhouse Gas Reduction** – the SWMD will use U.S. EPA’s Waste Reduction Model (WARM) (or an equivalent model) to evaluate the impact of recycling programs on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- a. WARM can be found at <http://www2.epa.gov/warm>
 - b. The findings of WARM will be used in the Report Cards
8. **Market Development (Optional)** – the SWMD has the option of providing programs to develop markets for recyclable materials and the use of recycled-content materials.
- a. This goal will be explored in the Revolving Loan Fund
 - b. Promotion of the Market Development Grant through Ohio EPA
9. **Reporting** – the SWMD shall report annually to the Ohio EPA regarding implementation of the SWMD’s solid waste management plan.
- a. The District continues to provide Ohio EPA with quarterly reports and an annual district report that demonstrates implementation of the solid waste management plan.