

**DEKALB COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
TWENTY- FIVE YEAR UPDATE**



**DEKALB COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
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**DEKALB COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
TWENTY- FIVE YEAR PLAN STATUS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

Plan Adoption Date: April 19, 1995

GENERAL INFORMATION

Local Government: DeKalb County

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In 1995, DeKalb County adopted the DeKalb County Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan) for DeKalb County in accordance with the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act of 1988. The Act requires that implementation tasks in the Plan be reviewed and updated every five years.

On October 16, 2013, the DeKalb County Board adopted a resolution to create the Zero Waste Task Force, which explored adopting Zero Waste as a guiding principle for DeKalb County's Solid Waste Management Plan. The ZWTF met from November 7, 2013 to July 1, 2014 and recommended Zero Waste as a guiding principle in order to divert material from landfills into productive uses and reduce environmental impacts. The DeKalb County Board adopted Zero Waste as a guiding principle within the DeKalb County Solid Waste Management Plan on September 17, 2014.

As a result of the Task Force three main priorities emerged:

1. Expand Opportunities for Rural Recycling
2. Commercial/Multi-Unit Housing Recycling
3. Harvesting Organics

DeKalb County' recycling rate of 49% is greater than what is mandated by the Solid Waste and Recycling Act, at only 25%. In 2019 DeKalb County generated 3.80 pounds of solid waste per person per day that was landfilled. With Zero Waste as a guiding principle, DeKalb County residents can reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill. The goal is 2.14 pounds per person per day, by 2034.

The following is a list of the implementation tasks that were included in the DeKalb County Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan) adopted in 1995. The tasks are grouped into two categories: Waste Reduction (education, recycling, source reduction) and Final Disposal (final disposal of waste generated in DeKalb County). The attached tables indicate the current status of each task with the 2020 Plan recommendations. Changes from the 20-year plan update are in *italics*.

TABLE 1**TASK #1: PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PROMOTION OF SOURCE REDUCTION, HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT, SCHOOL RECYCLING EDUCATION AND LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT**

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	STATUS
1-1	Continue the solid waste education program that the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service is providing.	Ongoing
1-2	Maintain and promote the “information clearinghouse” at the DeKalb County Health Department and continue to obtain informational documents on source reduction, recycling, composting, and household hazardous waste.	As needed
1-3	Implement publicity campaigns, and obtain assistance from local civic organizations.	As needed
1-4	Continue to conduct public outreach campaigns at public events.	As needed
1-5	Continue periodic news/media releases.	As needed
1-6	Continue to encourage residents to leave grass clippings on the lawn or to compost landscape waste. Provide information on how to minimize potential problems with backyard composting.	As needed
1-7	Continue to update agency / solid waste “web page” for dissemination of information including Social Media outlets.	As needed
1-8	Promote and assist with the development of enhanced in-school recycling and waste reduction education programs.	On going
1-9	Promote and coordinate Household Hazardous Waste Collection events utilizing the Host Agreement funds	On going
1-10	Move Zero Waste forward by increasing outreach and education at all levels, collaboration among governments, keeping the concept in the public eye through a variety of communication strategies, working with waste haulers, and impacting behavior.	On going

TABLE 2

TASK #2: *PROMOTE WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING AT COUNTY FACILITIES INCLUDING EDUCATION FOR BUSINESSES AND INSTITUTIONS*

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
2-1	Identify options for recycling and for procurement of materials that reduce waste.	As needed
2-2	Expand County government recycling and waste reduction programs, including procurement of recycled content products to set an example for other units of government and business.	<i>Continue</i>
2-3	Evaluate, monitor, and publicize results of waste audits.	As needed
2-4	Provide information to businesses and institutions informing them of the waste audit assistance program, as well as other opportunities through private industry (i.e. waste management companies) who can also provide this service.	As needed

TABLE 3

TASK 3: EVALUATE OPTIONS FOR FACILITATING THE EXCHANGE / REUSE OF MATERIALS

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
3-1	Promote and publicize freecycling – electronic swap boards for materials exchange.	As needed

TABLE 4

TASK 4: EVALUATE OPTIONS FOR MANAGING USED OIL, PAINT, TIRES, WHITE GOODS, ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
4-1	Consider alternatives to paint and oil collection program including paint exchanges and single event collection programs.	As needed
4-2	<i>Inform the community of regional household hazardous waste (HHW) collections. Utilize funding from the host agreement to offer annual local HHW collections.</i>	<i>On going</i>
4-3	Assess the need to develop an alternative white goods collection and management system.	As needed
4-4	Continue work along with the DeKalb County Highway Department in monitoring and evaluating the current system for managing used tires and host an annual used tire recycling drive for tires collected by municipalities during highway maintenance.	As needed
4-5	<i>Continue annual e-waste collections and promote the use of e-waste programs such as the At Your Door program currently set-up through municipalities.</i>	<i>On going</i>
4-6	Investigate medication collection/disposal programs.	<i>As needed</i>

TABLE 5

TASK 5: ESTABLISH A NETWORK OF RURAL DROP-OFF CENTERS AND/OR CURBSIDE COLLECTION

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
5-1	Continue to monitor municipalities, townships, haulers and citizens usage of recycling drop-off centers that service the unincorporated areas of the County.	On going
5-2	Continue to evaluate and review sites' manpower needs, operating hours, materials accepted, staff who work at the centers, cost of the program and payment method.	As needed
5-3	Seek alternatives to the burning of landscape waste.	As needed
5-4	Investigate the need for an ordinance requiring haulers operating in the County to offer residential recycling throughout the County, especially, in rural and unincorporated areas. Evaluate any costs, logistics and other items associated with residential recycling.	On going

TABLE 6

TASK 6: ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF ORGANIC CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
6-1	Provide technical assistance to municipalities in establishing and /or expanding curbside or drop-off recycling programs.	As needed
6-2	Investigate and encourage diversion of organic materials from landfill.	On going
6-3	Develop partnerships with other entities that can assist with diversion technologies.	As needed
6-4	Investigate the potential need for an ordinance requiring haulers to provide curbside recycling of organic waste. Evaluate any costs or logistical needs associated with recycling organic waste.	<i>Completed</i>

TABLE 7

TASK 7: ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES WITH COMMERICAL (MULTI-UNIT/INSTITUTIONAL) RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
7-1	Examine the commercial and institutional recycling services already being offered by local haulers.	<i>On going</i>
7-2	Study recycling ordinances or licensing agreements from other local government units.	<i>On going</i>
7-3	Conduct public meetings with hauling companies, the local business/industrial associations and public officials on the development of a more comprehensive commercial/institutional recycling program.	As needed
7-4	Provide resources for commercial recycling programs.	<i>On going</i>
7-5	Study possible alternatives to increase and promote commercial recycling in the County.	On going
7-6	Provide recognition to businesses with waste reduction and recycling programs.	<i>Assessing</i>
7-7	Provide incentives or assistance to businesses that seek to implement waste reduction and recycling programs.	<i>As available</i>
7-8	Continue to encourage existing as well as new multi-unit recycling programs in the County.	<i>On going</i>
7-9	Provide technical assistance to municipalities in establishing and /or expanding multi-unit recycling programs.	<i>Assessing</i>
7-10	Investigate and encourage diversion from landfill of organic materials.	<i>Completed</i>
7-11	Develop partnerships with other entities who can assist in diversion technologies.	On going
7-12	Consider an ordinance requiring commercial accounts to provide recycling of at least their two largest recyclable commodities.	<i>Assessing</i>

TABLE 8

TASK 8: EVALUATION OF CONSTRUCTION / DEMOLITION DEBRIS

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
8-1	Provide resources to local builders and contractors regarding current construction/ demolition (C/D) management practices and what options are available for recycling and/or reusing materials.	As needed
8-2	Track the generation and management of construction/ demolition debris.	On going
8-3	Evaluate whether to adopt an ordinance requiring C/D related projects to submit C/D waste reduction plans.	<i>Assessing</i>

TABLE 9

TASK 9: RECORD KEEPING / REPORTING OF RECYCLING AND LANDFILL OPERATIONS

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
9-1	Track statewide efforts to standardize recycling record keeping and reporting.	On going
9-2	Update reporting format as needed.	As needed
9-3	Continue to collect data and maintain a record keeping system for recycling and waste generation statistics for DeKalb County.	On going
9-4	Continue to monitor and track the disposal of waste not recycled with input from waste haulers and landfills.	On going
9-5	Annually calculate the landfill rate as pounds per person per day and publicize this rate with the goal of lowering it.	On going

TABLE 10

TASK 10: OVERALL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDING

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
10-1	Continue to utilize funds from the Host Benefit Agreement from the DeKalb County Landfill.	On going
10-2	Select technical and legal consultants, if necessary.	<i>As needed</i>
10-3	Apply for and continue to evaluate appropriate IEPA and DCEO grant funding.	As Available
10-4	Research and evaluate other funding options (e.g. USEPA, FHA).	As Available

TABLE 11

TASK 11: PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
11-1	<i>Utilize</i> volunteers for an ongoing community advisory committee to plan, track progress, and evaluate success and continue to advance the efforts to achieve zero waste.	As needed
11-2	Analyze reported data from recycling operations to detect trends and to measure the effects of education and of the ordinances establishing recycling service.	<i>As Available</i>
11-3	Seek feedback from haulers, businesses and the solid waste and recycling committee to determine if recycling program goals are on track.	As needed
11-4	Evaluate the education program and the recycling provisions of the Plan.	On going
11-5	Revise priorities and goals and plan future actions.	<i>On going</i>

TABLE 12

TASK 12: LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY TRACKING

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
12-1	Track the status of bills introduced in the General Assembly that may influence the County's Solid Waste Plan.	On going
12-2	Send letters and/or meet with legislators on any key bills.	As needed
12-3	Track the status of the IEPA's and DCEO's rule-making for the management of household hazardous waste, white goods, and other wastes.	On going

TABLE 13

TASK 13: FINAL DISPOSAL TASK 1: MONITORING OF EXISTING DISPOSAL CAPACITY

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
13-1	Conduct an annual evaluation of the location and number of landfills accepting solid waste from the County and the amount of DeKalb County waste they accepted.	On going
13-2	Obtain and analyze copies of annual capacity reports and calculations submitted by the landfills to the IEPA (due April 15).	On going
13-3	Annually review the capacity status of each landfill accepting waste from the County to determine the viability and economic feasibility of continued reliance on existing landfill disposal capacity.	On going
13-4	<i>Verify that Landfill owner (Waste Management) prepares an annual capacity determination report and submit it to the County Board.</i>	On going

TABLE 14

TASK 14: FINAL DISPOSAL TASK 2: RESEARCH, AMEND AND ADOPT FACILITY / LANDFILL SITING CRITERIA

Task #	2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATION	Status
14-1	DeKalb County Board voted to approve Waste Management of Illinois, Inc. for Site Location of the DeKalb County Landfill Expansion. – Resolution #R2010-31. Therefore, siting applications for new or expanded pollution control facilities are not needed for DeKalb County through the end of the County’s guaranteed capacity at the DeKalb County Landfill.	Complete
14-2	Any applicant seeking site location approval for a new or expanded pollution control facility anywhere in DeKalb County must negotiate a host agreement with the County prior to filing a site location application. The host agreement must contain, at a minimum, engineered safeguards, environmental indemnities, a need determination, and host fees which are not less than the County’s Host Community Agreement as approved by the County Board on March 18, 2009 for each ton of waste received for processing storage, treatment or disposal.	As needed