



# 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update for Lake County, Illinois

## ***Plan Update Timeline***

*Adopted by Citizens Advisory Committee: June 11, 2014*

*Adopted by SWALCO Board of Directors: August 28, 2014*

*Adopted by Lake County Board: October 14, 2014*



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## *Member Communities*

<i>Antioch</i>	<i>Green Oaks</i>	<i>Lake Barrington</i>	<i>Lindenhurst</i>	<i>Riverwoods</i>	<i>Vernon Hills</i>
<i>Bannockburn</i>	<i>Gurnee</i>	<i>Lake Bluff</i>	<i>Long Grove</i>	<i>Round Lake</i>	<i>Volo</i>
<i>Beach Park</i>	<i>Hainesville</i>	<i>Lake County</i>	<i>Mundelein</i>	<i>Round Lake Beach</i>	<i>Wadsworth</i>
<i>Deer Park</i>	<i>Hawthorn Woods</i>	<i>Lake Forest</i>	<i>North Barrington</i>	<i>Round Lake Heights</i>	<i>Wauconda</i>
<i>Deerfield</i>	<i>Highland Park</i>	<i>Lake Villa</i>	<i>North Chicago</i>	<i>Round Lake Park</i>	<i>Waukegan</i>
<i>Fox Lake</i>	<i>Highwood</i>	<i>Lake Zurich</i>	<i>Park City</i>	<i>Third Lake</i>	<i>Winthrop Harbor</i>
<i>Grayslake</i>	<i>Island Lake</i>	<i>Libertyville</i>	<i>Port Barrington</i>	<i>Tower Lakes</i>	<i>Zion</i>
<i>Great Lakes NTC</i>	<i>Kildeer</i>	<i>Lincolnshire</i>			

*Prepared for:*



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**Attachments**

A	Citizens Advisory Committee Members, Agendas and Attendance Sheets
B	Public Hearing Transcript
C	Lake County Board Resolution Adopting the 2014 Plan Update
D	60% Recycling Task Force Report
E	RecycleFirstTrashLast Education Campaign and Strategy
F	SWALCO Annual Reports for 2009, 2010, and 2011/2012
G	IEPA Plan Update Form



# SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Planning Background

With the passage of the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act in 1988, counties were required to develop waste management plans to manage the municipal waste generated within their borders. Lake County adopted its first Solid Waste Management Plan (the “Plan”) in 1989 and has since adopted the required five year updates in 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009 and now 2014 as represented by this document.

The Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act allows counties to delegate the development of the solid waste management plans to a municipal joint action agency. Lake County has chosen to delegate the updating of the original 1989 Plan to the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO), which was formed in 1990. State law still requires Lake County to formally adopt all plan updates and amendments, even though they may be prepared by SWALCO.

From the outset of the requirement to develop a solid waste management plan Lake County has taken a regional approach to planning and implementation by working jointly with the incorporated municipalities. The 1989 Plan was prepared by the Lake County Joint Action Solid Waste Planning Agency which was formed by intergovernmental agreement and represented 31 municipalities and the County of Lake covering approximately 95% of the County’s population. That Agency eventually lead to the formation of SWALCO, which became responsible for implementing the 1989 Plan and conducting future planning for all of Lake County.

Much has changed since Lake County adopted its first Plan in 1989. Recycling programs have increased dramatically with recycling more than doubling since 1989; landfills in Lake County have continued to close as the number of active landfills has decreased from 6 to 2; population and economic activity have increased significantly, the County’s population in 1989 was approximately 450,000, today it is over 700,000; and citizens and businesses have a renewed awareness of the need to conserve resources and protect the environment. The Lake County Plan has continued to evolve during the past 25 years, which is one of the practical and useful benefits of updating the Plan every five years.

### 1.1.1 Scope of the Lake County Plan

The Lake County Plan is applicable to all geographic areas of Lake County (refer to Figure 2.1 in Section 2). It is also applicable to all units of local government in Lake County regardless of their membership in SWALCO or not. The only exclusion is for units of local government, including Barrington, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling, which are members of another municipal joint action agency (SWANCC). To further clarify, if, for example, a pollution control facility was proposed within a portion of Buffalo Grove that was within Lake County that facility would have to be consistent with the Lake County Plan not the applicable Cook County Plan.

A pollution control facility includes disposal facilities such as landfills, mass burn incinerators, alterative disposal technologies, and transfer stations that accept municipal waste. Solid waste plans have specific importance with respect to pollution control facilities that manage waste



because such facilities must meet the following criterion (415 ILCS 5/39.2(a)(viii)) to be granted local siting approval (along with 8 other criteria):

*If the facility is to be located in a county where the county board has adopted a solid waste management plan consistent with the planning requirements of the Local Solid Waste Disposal Act or the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act, the facility is consistent with that plan; for purposes of this criterion (viii), the “solid waste management plan” means the plan that is in effect as of the date the application for siting approval is filed;*

Therefore, any pollution control facility proposed to be located anywhere within incorporated or unincorporated Lake County must demonstrate that it is consistent with this 2014 Plan Update in order to receive local siting approval. Recommendations and requirements applicable to pollution control facilities that may have existed in the 1989 Plan or the subsequent Plan Updates are superseded by this 2014 Plan Update.

### **1.1.2 Development of the 2014 Plan Update**

Keeping with Lake County’s tradition of preparing consensus based plan updates, a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was formally appointed by the SWALCO Board of Directors on October 24, 2013. The list of the CAC members is contained in Attachment A, along with the agendas and attendance sheets from the CAC’s meetings held on the following dates in 2014: February 12, April 16 and June 11. At its meeting on June 11, 2014 the CAC approved the draft 2014 Plan Update (the final vote was 10 in favor and 3 opposed, with the three voting against the Plan Update due to Transfer Station Recommendation T.7).

Subsequent to the action taken by the CAC to approve the draft Plan Update, the SWALCO Executive Committee approved the Plan Update at its meeting on August 13, 2014. SWALCO then conducted a public hearing on the Plan Update (transcripts from the hearing are in Attachment B) and the SWALCO Board of Directors voted to approve the Plan Update on August 28, 2014. The Plan Update was then forwarded to the Lake County Board with a recommendation from SWALCO to approve it.

At the County level, the 2014 Plan Update was reviewed by the Lake County Public Works and Transportation Committee on October 1, 2014, and at that meeting the Committee voted to recommend approval of the Plan Update to the Lake County Board. After considering all the comments of the public and acknowledging the hard work of the CAC, the Lake County Board approved the 2014 Plan Update on October 14, 2014 (the County Board resolution adopting the 2014 Plan Update is in Attachment C).

## **1.2 Organization of the 2014 Plan Update**

The remainder of the 2014 Plan Update is organized as follows:

- Section 2 – Waste Generation and Management
- Section 3 – Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update
- Section 4 – Recommendations for the 2014-2019 Planning Period



Several attachments have also been included in the 2014 Plan Update:

- Attachment A – Citizens Advisory Committee Members, Agendas and Attendance Sheets
- Attachment B – Public Hearing Transcript
- Attachment C – Lake County Board Resolution Adopting the 2014 Plan Update
- Attachment D – 60% Recycling Task Force Report
- Attachment E – RecycleFirstTrashLast Education Campaign and Strategy
- Attachment F – SWALCO Annual Reports for 2009, 2010, and 2011/2012
- Attachment G – IEPA Plan Update Form





## SECTION 2 WASTE GENERATION AND MANAGEMENT

### 2.1 Introduction

This section of the 2014 Plan Update provides updated information on demographics and waste generation within the SWALCO Planning area and Lake County. The Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan (the Plan) was first developed in 1989, and was updated in 1994, 1999, 2004, and 2009. The 2014 Plan Update utilizes data sources similar to those used in prior studies, in order to facilitate comparison with prior plan updates, but has modified the methodology applied to be consistent with the *60% Recycling Task Force Report* completed in 2011. The 60% Recycling Task Force Report established disposal goals that SWALCO member communities must meet, and therefore the incorporation of the methodology utilized in that report into the Plan Update is appropriate to measure progress towards the disposal goals that have been established.

### 2.2 Planning Area

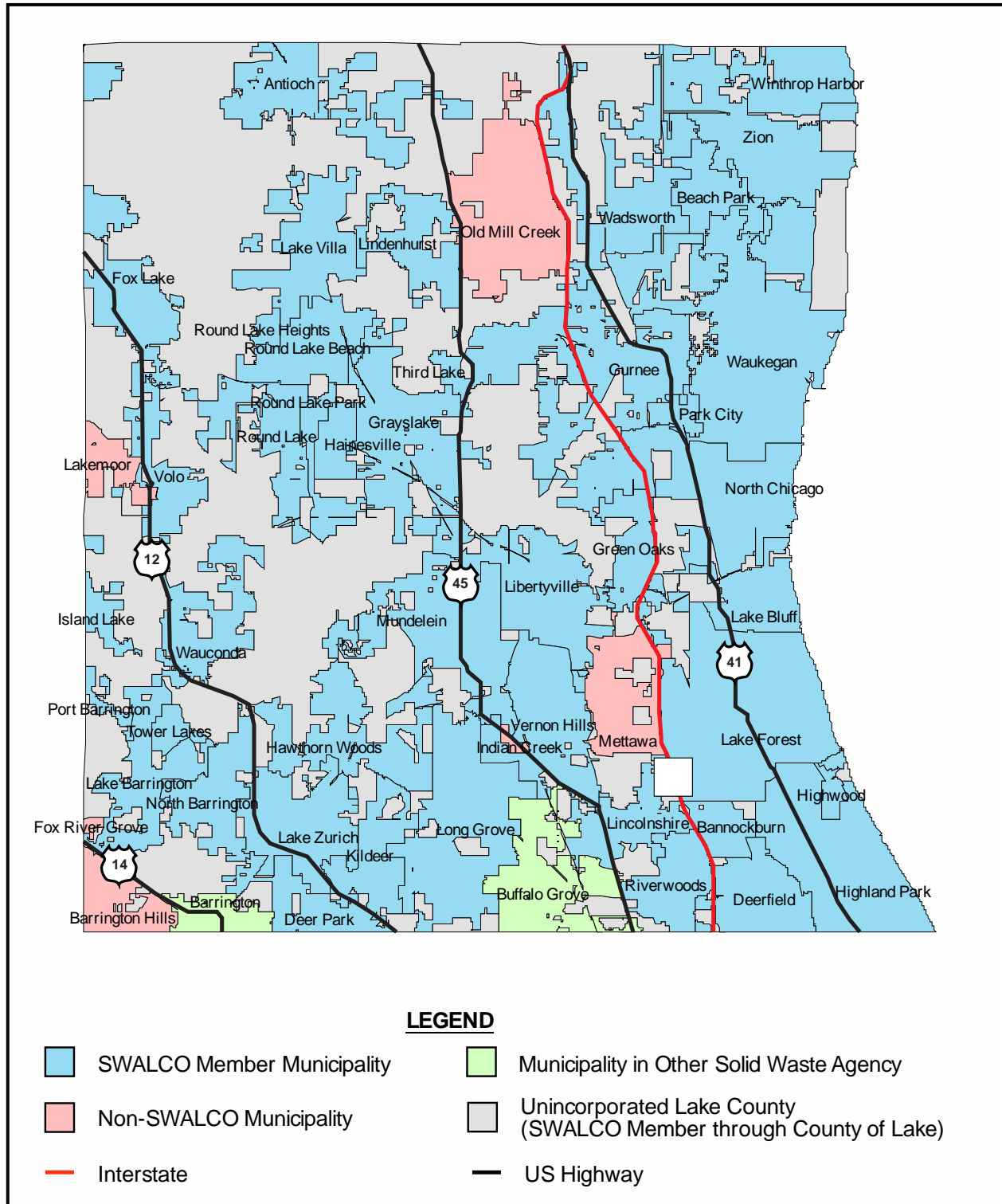
The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) is comprised of 43 municipalities, Lake County and the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. There are six municipalities in the County that have not joined SWALCO, and three municipalities (Barrington, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling) that are members of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (refer to Figure 2.1). These latter three municipalities lie only partially in Lake County. Four of the SWALCO communities and three of the non-SWALCO communities also lie partially in other counties.

Historically, the "planning area" has consisted of the SWALCO members and non-member communities, but excluding the three municipalities that are members of SWANCC. The population within the planning area therefore tracks the County's population closely, but is somewhat lower because Barrington, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling are considered part of the SWANCC planning area. (For reference, in 2010, Barrington had 4,696 residents in the Lake County portion of its boundaries, Buffalo Grove had 27,852 residents, and Wheeling had 6 residents; combined, the Lake County portion of these communities represented about 5 percent of the County's population.)





**FIGURE 2.1 LAKE COUNTY AND SWALCO PLANNING AREA**



## 2.3 Demographics

Projections of population, households and employment for Lake County and the planning area were developed using the latest available forecasts from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. CMAP is the regional planning body which succeeded the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission. Long-term forecasts developed by CMAP for 2040 are provided in Table 2.1.

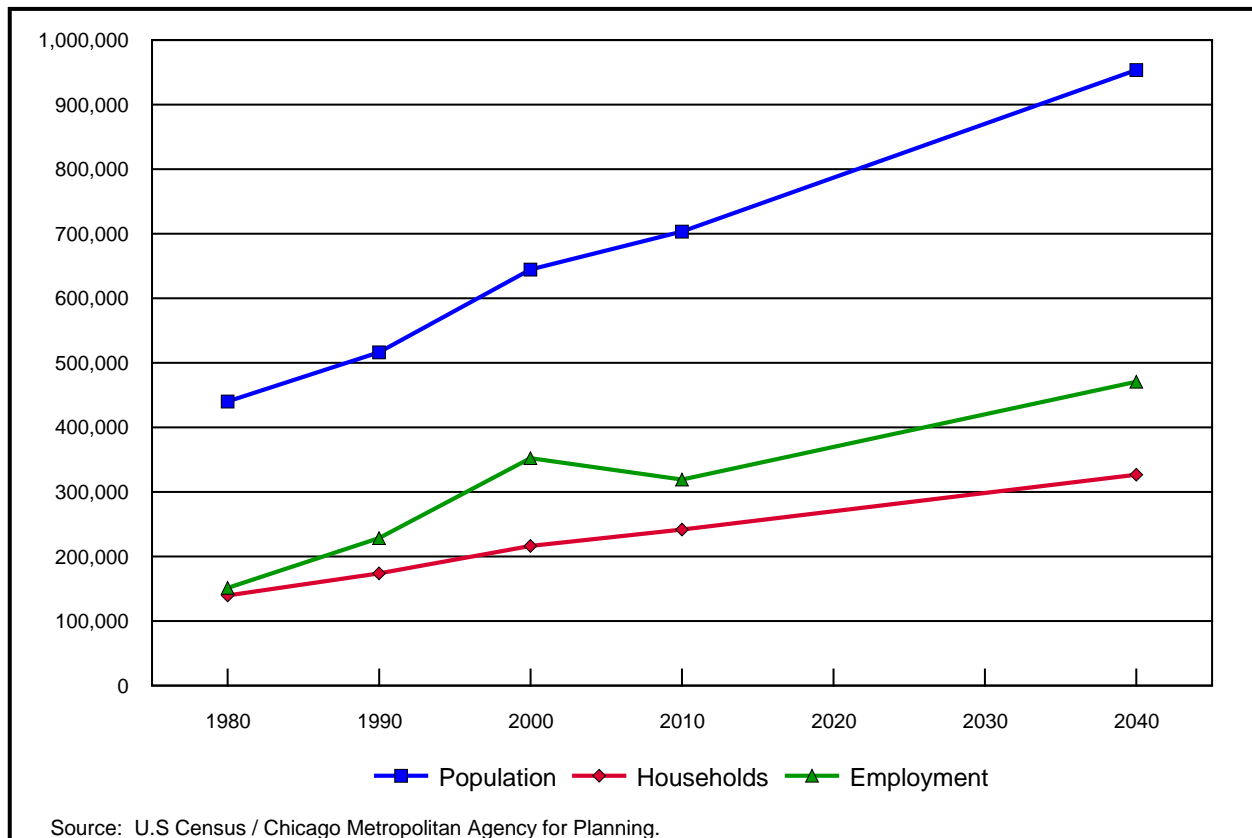
TABLE 2.1 LONG-TERM DEMOGRAPHIC PROJECTIONS (2010 - 2040)					
	2010	2040	Increase (Number)	Increase (%)	Annual Growth
<b>Population</b>					
Lake County	703,462	953,669	250,207	35.6%	1.0%
SWALCO Planning Area	670,908	911,505	240,597	35.9%	1.0%
<b>Households</b>					
Lake County	241,712	326,763	85,051	35.2%	1.0%
SWALCO Planning Area	229,055	311,696	82,641	36.1%	1.0%
<b>Persons Per Household</b>					
Lake County	2.91	2.92			
SWALCO Planning Area	2.93	2.92			
<b>Employment</b>					
Lake County	319,409	470,939	151,530	47.4%	1.3%
SWALCO Planning Area	300,092	447,816	147,724	49.2%	1.3%
<b>Notes:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Source: CMAP, <i>Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission 2030 Forecasts of Population, Households and Employment by County and Municipality</i>, September 27, 2006.</li> <li>2. 2010 Population and Households are 2010 Census data. All other data (except persons per household) are CMAP estimates and projections. Persons per household calculated by dividing population by the number of households.</li> <li>4. Projections for Lake County include only the Lake County portion of communities that lie partially in the County.</li> <li>5. Projections for SWALCO Planning Area include only Lake County portion of communities that lie partially in the County, and exclude Barrington, Buffalo Grove and Wheeling (which are members of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County).</li> <li>6. Population counts for the Lake County portion of communities that lie partially in the County were available in 2010 Census data, but not in 2040 CMAP data. 2040 projections for these communities were calculated by assuming that the growth rate for the Lake County portion of a community is the same as the growth rate for the entire community.</li> <li>7. Household and employment counts for the Lake County portion of communities that lie partially in the County were not available in 2010 Census data. For those communities, households and employment were assumed to have the same proportion within Lake County as population.</li> </ol>					



Population, households, and employment in Lake County are projected to grow by about 1 percent annually between 2010 and 2040. CMAP projects a faster rate of growth (on a percentage basis) in Kane, McHenry and Will Counties, and a slower rate of growth in Cook and DuPage Counties.

Future growth in Lake County will be more moderate than the faster rates of growth experienced in the 1980 - 2000 period (refer to Figure 2.2). During that period, population grew by 1.9 percent annually, households by 2.2 percent annually, and employment by 4.3 percent annually.

**FIGURE 2.2 DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN LAKE COUNTY**



Near-term forecasts for 2013 and the current five-year Plan Update period (2014 - 2019) are provided in Table 2.2. These near-term forecasts are provided for the use of SWALCO staff in submitting annual recycling reports to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, as well as estimating waste quantities during the five-year period.



TABLE 2.2 NEAR-TERM DEMOGRAPHIC PROJECTIONS (2013 - 2019)							
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Population							
Lake County	728,483	736,823	745,163	753,503	761,844	770,184	778,524
SWALCO Planning Area	694,968	702,988	711,008	719,027	727,047	735,067	743,087
Households							
Lake County	250,217	253,052	255,887	258,722	261,557	264,392	267,227
SWALCO Planning Area	237,319	240,074	242,829	245,583	248,338	251,093	253,847
Persons Per Household							
Lake County	2.91	2.91	2.91	2.91	2.91	2.91	2.91
SWALCO Planning Area	2.93	2.93	2.93	2.93	2.93	2.93	2.93
Employment							
Lake County	334,562	339,613	344,664	349,715	354,766	359,817	364,868
SWALCO Planning Area	314,864	319,789	324,713	329,637	334,561	339,485	344,409
Notes:							
1. Near-term forecasts based on interpolation of 2010 Census and 2040 CMAP data.							

## 2.4 Waste Generation

This section presents updated waste generation information for the SWALCO planning area. The Solid Waste Management Plan (1989) utilized a number of sources to estimate waste generation rates (i.e., pounds per person per day, pounds per employee per day), including surveys of landfills, surveys of municipalities, and published studies. Subsequent Plan Updates (1994, 1999, and 2004) modified the initial estimates by applying adjustment factors based on national-level estimates of waste generation. A comprehensive review of waste generation in Lake County was performed for the development of the 2009 Plan Update for the first time since the original Plan was prepared, again utilizing several sources including hauler and municipal surveys and published studies.

Following completion of the 2009 Plan Update, Lake County convened a task force to investigate options for increasing recycling in the County to a target rate of 60%. The task force further evaluated and quantified waste disposal from the County utilizing data reported by haulers and municipalities, similar to the approach used in the 2009 Plan Update. However, where the 2009 Plan Update had utilized additional regional disposal data to develop disposal rates, the methodology used in the *60% Recycling Task Force Report* relied solely on locally-reported data. Disposal rates in this 2014 Plan Update have been developed applying a methodology consistent with Lake County's *60% Recycling Task Force Report*, as further



described in this section. The following subsections detail the disposal rate calculation and identify overall waste generation rates in Lake County.

### 2.4.1 Disposal Rate Calculation

Following adoption of the 2009 Plan Update, SWALCO convened a task force to evaluate methods by which SWALCO and Lake County could achieve a 60% recycling rate by 2020. The *60% Recycling Task Force Report*, produced by the task force (refer to Attachment D of this Plan Update), utilized an alternative method to calculate disposal rates in Lake County as compared to the method utilized in the 2009 Plan Update. The method used in the *60% Recycling Task Force Report* has been used in this 2014 Plan Update and will continue to be the method utilized to measure waste disposal in Lake County going forward to monitor progress towards the goals established in the *60% Recycling Task Force Report*.

Annual waste disposal rates for 2009-2013 are presented in Table 2.3. The following data sources have been used to develop annual waste disposal rates:

1. Hauler data reported by residential franchises (Source "A" in Table 2.3), used to calculate residential disposal rates.
2. Landfill reported data (Source "B" in Table 2.3), used to calculate combined commercial/C&D debris disposal rates. SWALCO receives annual reports of Lake County waste disposed at the two in-County landfills, and in preparation of both the *60% Recycling Task Force Report* and this Plan Update surveyed area transfer stations and licensed waste haulers to estimate the quantity of waste exported from Lake County. Based on these surveys, it is estimated that approximately 12.7% of the municipal waste disposed from Lake County is exported to transfer stations outside of Lake County for disposal at regional landfills outside of Lake County. The residential franchise disposal rate (calculated from Source "A") is subtracted from the landfill reported disposal rate to calculate the combined commercial/C&D debris disposal rate.
3. Hauler data reported under the Lake County solid waste ordinance (Source "C" in Table 2.3), used as a check against the landfill reported data. This data is not used in the calculation of Lake County disposal rates, but represents an additional source of information that is generally consistent with the other data sources relied upon.

As shown in Table 2.3, disposal rates have fluctuated from 2010 through 2013, following completion of the *60% Recycling Task Force Report*. Though the 2013 residential disposal rate remains lower than the 2010 rate, the commercial/C&D debris disposal rate has increased, resulting in an overall increase in the municipal waste disposal rate in 2013.



**TABLE 2.3 SWALCO WASTE DISPOSAL DATA (2009 - 2013)**

Data Source	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Tonnage Data</b>					
A. Hauler Reported per Residential Franchise Contracts	164,543	158,457	152,879	147,578	145,920
B. Landfill Reported	538,189	558,171	573,595	545,679	574,352
1. WMI Countryside Landfill	267,615	260,009	262,115	264,153	275,808
2. ADS Zion Landfill	195,766	220,352	231,750	205,677	218,709
3. Exported to Out-of-County Landfills	74,808	77,810	79,730	75,849	79,835
C. Hauler Reported per County Ordinance	486,673	494,496	483,864	568,222	485,191
<b>Disposal Rate Calculations</b>					
Lake County Population	701,042	703,462	701,052	701,219	703,019
Residential Franchise Population	469,752	468,681	456,316	453,815	449,299
Residential Disposal Rate	1.92	1.85	1.84	1.78	1.78
Commercial/C&D Debris Disposal Rate	2.29	2.50	2.64	2.48	2.70
Total MSW Disposal Rate	4.21	4.35	4.48	4.26	4.48
<b>Note:</b> 1. The calculated MSW Disposal Rate for 2010 reflects a decrease from the 2010 disposal rate of 4.77 pcd calculated in the <i>60% Recycling Task Force Report</i> due to updated data received subsequent to completion of the report.					

The *60% Recycling Task Force Report* established goal disposal rates for the residential and commercial/C&D debris sectors. Goals were set for 2015 and 2020, utilizing 2010 rates as the base year for calculation purposes. Lake County's 2010 waste generation rate (disposal + recycling + composting) was calculated to be 8.76 pcd. If a diversion goal of 60% is achieved, then 40% of the waste generated will still require disposal. Therefore, a base year generation rate of 8.76 pcd and disposal of 40% of that amount equates to a goal disposal rate of 3.50 pcd:

$$8.76 \text{ pcd generated} \times 40\% \text{ disposed} = 3.50 \text{ pcd disposed}$$

Given that the 2010 disposal rate calculated in the *60% Recycling Task Force Report* was 4.77 pcd, a reduction factor of 0.73 ( $3.50 \text{ pcd} / 4.77 \text{ pcd} = 0.73$ ) was applied to 2010 disposal rates to calculate 2020 goal disposal rates:

Residential	$0.73 \times 1.85 \text{ pcd} = 1.35 \text{ pcd goal (2020)}$
Commercial/C&D	$0.73 \times 2.92 \text{ pcd} = 2.13 \text{ pcd goal (2020)}$



2015 goal disposal rates were set as the midway point between 2010 and 2020 rates. Table 2.4 summarizes the goal disposal rates for the residential and commercial/C&D debris sectors for 2015 and 2020, as calculated in the *60% Recycling Task Force Report*.

<b>TABLE 2.4 DISPOSAL RATE GOALS</b>			
Disposal Sector	2010 (Base Year)	2015	2020
Residential	1.85	1.60	1.35
Commercial/C&D Debris	2.92	2.52	2.13
Total	4.77	4.12	3.48

Based on 2013 residential waste collection data provided by the haulers, 13 of SWALCO's member communities have met either the 2015 goal of 1.60 pcd or the 2020 goal of 1.35 pcd, as shown in Table 2.5 below.

<b>TABLE 2.5 SWALCO MEMBER COMMUNITY PROGRESS TOWARDS GOAL DISPOSAL RATE</b>				
SWALCO Member	2010	2011	2012	2013
Antioch	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4
Bannockburn				2.3
Beach Park	2.2	2.3	2.0	1.8
Deer Park	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3
Deerfield	2.1	1.7	1.7	1.6
Fox Lake	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2
Grayslake	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5
Green Oaks	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.6
Gurnee	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5
Hainesville	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.8
Hawthorn Woods	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3
Highland Park	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.3
Highwood	1.7	1.9	2.4	2.3
Island Lake	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.4
Kildeer	1.8	2.0	1.8	2.1
Lake Barrington	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.6
Lake Bluff	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5
Lake County	3.0	2.8	2.4	2.3
Lake Forest	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.4
Lake Villa	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9
Lake Zurich	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7
Libertyville	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Lincolnshire	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.2
Lindenhurst	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.9
Long Grove	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1
Mundelein	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8
North Barrington	2.3	2.7	2.7	3.1





**TABLE 2.5 SWALCO MEMBER COMMUNITY PROGRESS TOWARDS GOAL DISPOSAL RATE**

SWALCO Member	2010	2011	2012	2013
North Chicago	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.6
Park City	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3
Port Barrington	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.8
Riverwoods	2.2	2.4	1.8	1.7
Round Lake	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7
Round Lake Beach	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6
Round Lake Heights	2.1	2.1	1.8	2.0
Round Lake Park	1.9	2.2	2.0	1.4
Third Lake	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.3
Tower Lakes	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.7
Vernon Hills	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6
Wadsworth	3.2	2.9	2.3	2.2
Wauconda	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.0
Waukegan	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
Winthrop Harbor	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1
Zion	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8
<b>Average PCD Disposal Rate</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>1.84</b>	<b>1.78</b>	<b>1.82</b>
<b>Total Tons of Waste Generated</b>	<b>175,518</b>	<b>170,791</b>	<b>162,995</b>	<b>159,942</b>
<b>Total Number of Households</b>	<b>170,061</b>	<b>169,937</b>	<b>169,972</b>	<b>165,340</b>
<b>Total Calculated Population</b>	<b>502,229</b>	<b>490,808</b>	<b>488,307</b>	<b>482,141</b>

Notes:

1. Bannockburn became a member of SWALCO in 2013. Prior to 2013, Bannockburn was not included in the calculation of residential disposal rates.
2. As of 2013, 3 municipalities (Fox Lake, Highland Park, Lake Villa) have met the 2020 disposal rate goal of 1.35 pcd, and 10 municipalities (Antioch, Deerfield, Grayslake, Gurnee, Island Lake, Lake Barrington, Lake Bluff, Round Lake Beach, Round Lake Park, Vernon Hills) have met the 2015 disposal rate goal of 1.60 pcd.

## 2.4.2 Recycling and Composting Quantities

SWALCO compiles data on recycling and composting activity from Lake County annually. Data is reported through the County's hauler licensing ordinance as well as surveys conducted by SWALCO. Table 2.6 summarizes recycling and composting quantities for the past 5 years.



<b>TABLE 2.6 LAKE COUNTY RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING DATA (2009 - 2013)</b>					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Residential Recycling (tons)	74,019	75,188	76,333	75,960	79,938
Commercial Recycling (tons)	241,863	269,242	250,729	225,495	244,090
C&D Debris Recycling (tons)	71,888	77,224	84,807	88,000	91,725
Landscape Waste Composting (tons)	98,275	89,716	96,681	114,891	117,712
<b>Municipal Waste Diversion (tons)</b>	<b>486,045</b>	<b>511,370</b>	<b>508,550</b>	<b>504,346</b>	<b>533,465</b>
<b>Municipal Waste Diversion (%)</b>	<b>47 %</b>	<b>45 %</b>	<b>46 %</b>	<b>47 %</b>	<b>48 %</b>

### 2.4.3 Summary Waste Generation

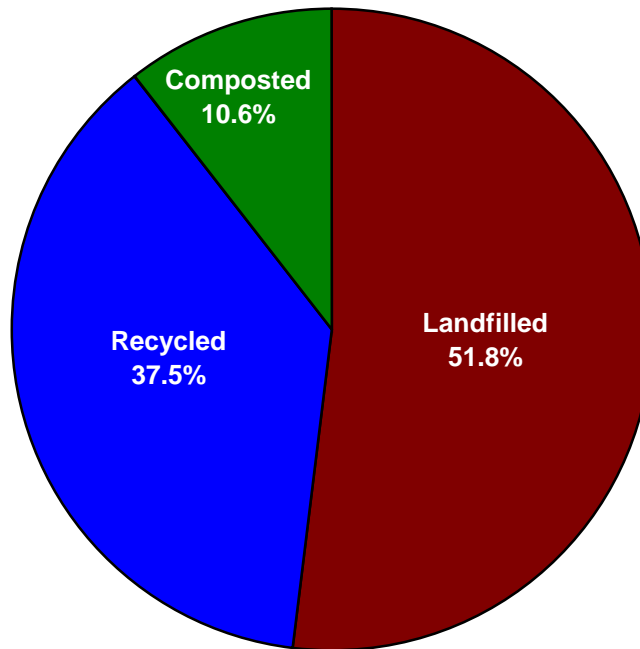
Municipal solid waste generation tonnages and per capita rates for 2009 - 2013 are summarized in Table 2.7, based on the disposal and recycling/composting data presented previously.

<b>TABLE 2.7 LAKE COUNTY WASTE GENERATION (2009 - 2013)</b>					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
<b>Waste Generation Tonnage</b>					
Residential	238,562	233,645	229,212	223,538	225,858
Commercial/C&D Debris	689,888	800,730	790,103	741,310	764,247
Landscape	98,275	89,716	96,681	114,891	117,712
<b>Total MSW Generation (tons)</b>	<b>1,026,725</b>	<b>1,124,091</b>	<b>1,115,996</b>	<b>1,079,739</b>	<b>1,107,817</b>
<b>Waste Generation Per Capita</b>					
Residential	2.78	2.73	2.75	2.70	2.75
Commercial/C&D Debris	5.39	6.24	6.18	5.79	5.96
Landscape	0.77	0.70	0.76	0.90	0.92
<b>Total MSW Generation Rate (pcd)</b>	<b>8.94</b>	<b>9.67</b>	<b>9.69</b>	<b>9.39</b>	<b>9.63</b>

Based on the preceding information, Lake County is estimated to have diverted 48% of the waste generated in the County from disposal in 2013. The remaining 52% of waste was landfilled (see Figure 2.3). More information on waste management methods and the facilities utilized is provided in Section 2.5 of this Plan Update.



**FIGURE 2.3 WASTE MANAGEMENT METHODS (2013)**



## 2.5 Waste Management Methods

### 2.5.1 Current Waste System

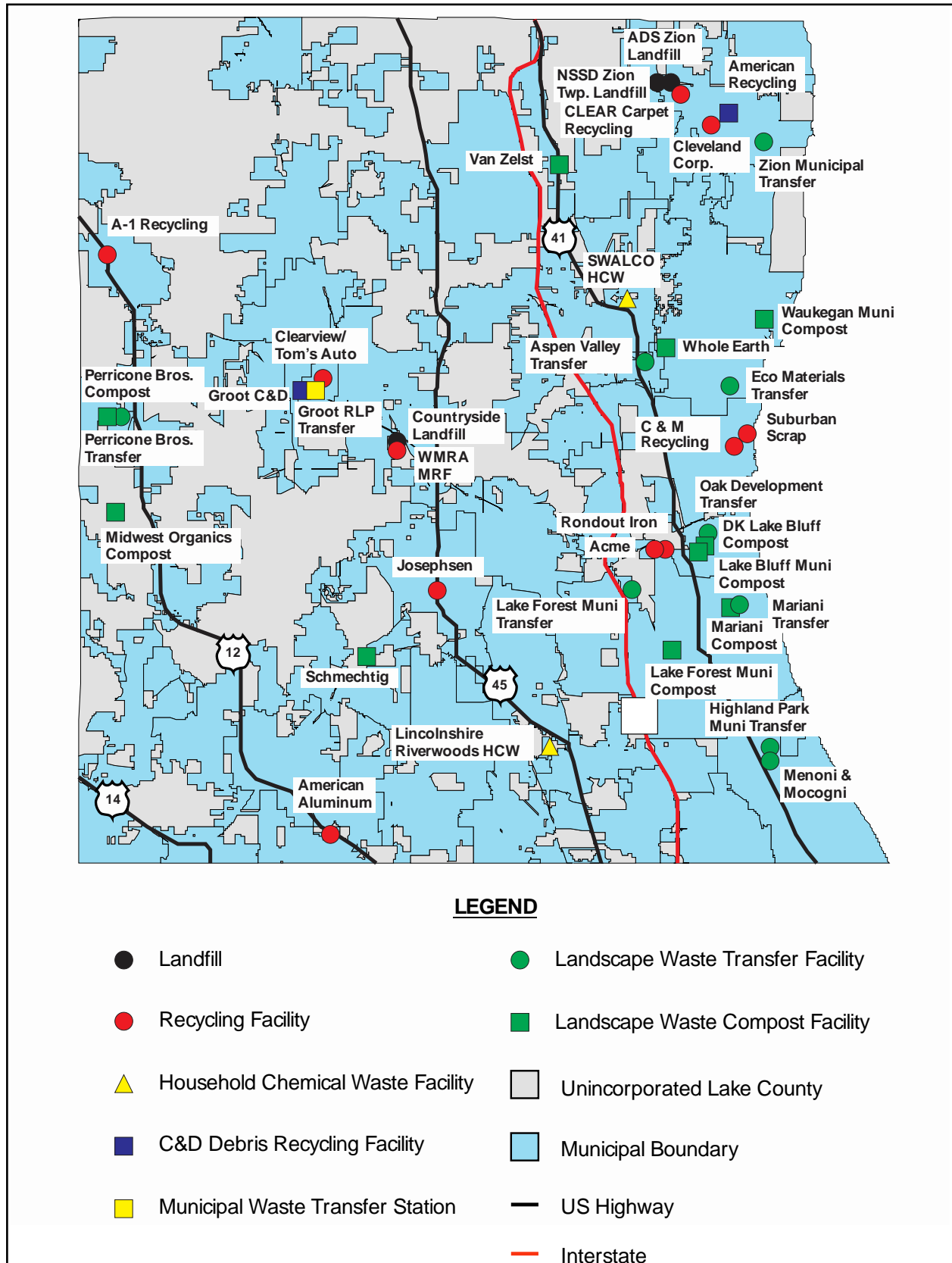
Lake County and SWALCO communities rely on a number of facilities to manage their waste<sup>1</sup> (refer to Figure 2.4). The SWALCO annual recycling survey for 2013 indicated that 11 scrap yard facilities located in the County recycled approximately 142,000 tons of material. Three brokers, two large retailers and one large industry accounted for 73,000 tons of recyclables -- these materials were likely direct shipped to end user markets. Four construction/demolition debris processors reported 39,000 tons of recycling from Lake County (American Recycling in Zion, C&D Recycling in Northbrook, MBL Recycling in Palatine, and K. Hoving in West Chicago).

Unlike landfills, transfer stations and compost facilities, recycling facilities typically do not report the amount of material handled or capacity information to the IEPA or other government authorities.

<sup>1</sup> The Groot C&D Recycling Facility has received an IEPA development permit but is not yet constructed and operating. An IEPA development permit has also been issued for the Groot Round Lake Park Transfer Station.



**FIGURE 2.4 LAKE COUNTY SOLID WASTE FACILITIES (2014)**



The SWALCO recycling survey estimated that 117,712 tons of landscape waste and food scrap was composted in 2013 at 15 active sites (one additional facility is permitted but currently inactive). Information on these facilities is summarized in Table 2.8.

<b>TABLE 2.8 LANDSCAPE WASTE COMPOST FACILITY INFORMATION</b>		
Facility	Tons Received (2013)	
	Lake County	Total
DK Lake Bluff (Note 1)	1,411	1,411
Joyce Farms	921	19,268
Lake Bluff Municipal #2 (Note 1)	1,289	1,289
Lake Forest (Note 1)	2,869	2,869
Land and Lakes #5 (Note 3)	0	0
Mariani Landscape Design (Note 2)	684	684
Midwest Organics	16,742	18,602
Nu-Earth Organics (Note 3)	2,457	2,457
Perricone Bros.	1,421	1,421
Quarry Compost	2,951	29,509
Schmechtig Landscape Co. (Note 2)	215	215
Thelen Sand & Gravel	75,056	83,395
Van Zelst Landscape Dev. (Note 2)	790	790
Waukegan (Note 1)	3,066	3,066
Whole Earth Organics	7,216	7,216
Willow Ranch	624	6,241
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,712</b>	<b>178,433</b>
<b>Notes:</b> 1. DK Lake Bluff, Lake Bluff Municipal, Lake Forest, and Waukegan accept landscape wastes generated in their own municipalities only. 2. Mariani, Schmechtig, and Van Zelst do not accept landscape waste from outside/third party sources. 3. Land and Lakes #5 and Nu-Earth Organics suspended operations in 2013.		

SWALCO has disposal capacity agreements with six landfills: Countryside Landfill, ADS Zion Landfill, Pheasant Run RDF, Livingston Landfill, Lee County Landfill, and Newton County Landfill. Capacity and throughput information on the three facilities either in Lake County or closest to Lake County is provided in Table 2.9.



<b>TABLE 2.9 LANDFILL CAPACITY INFORMATION</b>					
Facility	Capacity (01/01/14)		Throughput (2013)		Remaining Life (Years)
	Gate Cu. Yds.	Tons	Gate Cu. Yds.	Tons	
Countryside	12,653,025	3,834,250	1,534,479	464,994	8.2
ADS Zion	36,358,586	11,017,753	1,978,304	599,486	18.4
Pheasant Run	18,001,071	5,454,870	583,166	176,717	30.9
Notes: 1. Source: IEPA Capacity Certification forms and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Capacities reported to IEPA in gate cubic yards converted to tons using IEPA conversion factor of 3.3 gate cubic yards per ton. Capacities reported to WDNR in airspace cubic yards converted to tons using an in-place density of 1,400 pounds per cubic yard and assuming a cover factor of 10 percent. Capacity in tons converted to gate cubic yards using the conversion factor of 3.3 gate cubic yards per ton. 2. Capacity and remaining life at ADS Zion is inclusive of additional expansion capacity, for which an IEPA permit is pending. As reported by ADS Zion to IEPA, excluding the pending expansion, facility life is approximately 4 years. 3. Pheasant Run tonnage received has declined significantly since 2009, and the landfill receives only a small quantity of waste from Illinois. The tonnage decline is largely due to increased state surcharge fees on tons of waste disposed at Wisconsin landfills.					

## 2.5.2 Waste Management Strategies to Reach 60% Recycling

The *60% Recycling Task Force Report* identified a number of recommendations to be implemented by member communities to achieve the disposal rate goals presented in Table 2.4 by 2015 and 2020. If these goals are not met, municipalities not reaching the goals will be required to enact certain mandatory ordinances.

Table 2.10 below provides a brief summary of the recommendations implemented by member communities to date (refer to Attachment D for all of the recommendations contained in the *60% Recycling Task Force Report* and to SWALCO's website for the most recent community implementation status at [www.swalco.org/Recycling/RecyclingTaskForce](http://www.swalco.org/Recycling/RecyclingTaskForce)).



**TABLE 2.10 SWALCO MEMBER IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:  
60% RECYCLING TASK FORCE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

SWALCO Member	Municipal Franchise	Recycling Carts	Cart Upgrade Option	Volume Based (PAYT) Option	Multi-Family Ordinance or Franchise	Commercial Franchise	Construction & Demolition Debris Ordinance	Hosts E-Scrap Collections	Hosts Textile Collections	Pharmaceuticals Collection
Antioch	X	X	X	X				X		X
Bannockburn	X	X	X	X		X				
Beach Park	X	X	X	X				X		
Deer Park	X	X	X					X		
Deerfield	X	X			X	X	X	X		X
Fox Lake	X	X			X			X	X	X
Grayslake	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Green Oaks	X	X		X						
Gurnee	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Hainesville	X	X	X	X				X	X	
Hawthorn Woods	X	X	X	X						X
Highland Park	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Highwood	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
Island Lake	X	X								
Kildeer	X	X	X	X						
Lake Barrington	X	X	X						X	
Lake Bluff	X	X					X	X		X
Lake Forest	Municipal	X						X		X
Lake Villa	X	X	X	X						
Lake Zurich	X	X	X	X						X
Libertyville	X	X		X		X		X		X
Lincolnshire	X	X	X	X				X		
Lindenhurst	X	X		X				X	X	
Long Grove	X	X	X	X				X		
Mundelein	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X
Navy (Forest City Housing)	X				X					
North Barrington	X	X								
North Chicago	X	X	X					X	X	
Park City	X	X		X				X		
Port Barrington	X	X	X					X		
Riverwoods	X	X	X	X			X	X		
Round Lake	X	X		X				X	X	
Round Lake Beach	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
Round Lake Heights	X	X		X						
Round Lake Park	X	X							X	X
Third Lake	X	X								
Tower Lakes	X									
Vernon Hills	X	X		X	X			X	X	X





**TABLE 2.10 SWALCO MEMBER IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:  
60% RECYCLING TASK FORCE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

SWALCO Member	Municipal Franchise	Recycling Carts	Cart Upgrade Option	Volume Based (PAYT) Option	Multi-Family Ordinance or Franchise	Commercial Franchise	Construction & Demolition Debris Ordinance	Hosts E-Scrap Collections	Hosts Textile Collections	Pharmaceuticals Collection
Wadsworth	Licensed	X								
Wauconda	X	X						X	X	X
Waukegan	X	X		X				X	X	
Winthrop Harbor	X	X		X						
Zion	X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Lake County	Subscription	X		X			X	X	X	X
Notes:										
1. "X" denotes that the option/service is provided in the member community.										

A summary of waste disposal and diversion performance in SWALCO member communities is provided in Table 2.11 below. Diversion in Lake County (including both recycling and yard waste for composting) shows variation from community to community, ranging from approximately 17% to 55%. On a household basis, residential recycling ranges from 230 pounds per household per year to 1,350 pounds per household per year.

**TABLE 2.11 2013 RESIDENTIAL WASTE DATA**

	Homes Served	Recycling (tons)	Yard Waste (tons)	Disposed (tons)	Generated (tons)	Diversion (%)	Avg. Lbs/Home/Year Recycled
Antioch	4,326	1,278.00	677.00	3,170.90	5,126	38.1%	591
Bannockburn	231	52.06	0.00	261.38	313	16.6%	451
Beach Park	2,239	427.03	495.00	2,411.14	3,333	27.7%	381
Deerfield	5,500	2,643.63	501.50	5,153.70	8,299	37.9%	961
Deer Park	944	500.03	200.09	1,165.36	1,865	37.5%	1,059
Fox Lake	3,912	920.70	390.30	2,012.30	3,323	39.4%	471
Grayslake	6,674	2,455.75	1,888.25	4,932.10	9,276	46.8%	736
Green Oaks	1,069	621.13	537.80	1,653.19	2,812	41.2%	1,162
Gurnee	9,250	3,123.90	2,155.45	6,826.20	12,106	43.6%	675
Hainesville	923	362.76	119.72	932.34	1,415	34.1%	786
Hawthorn Woods	2,083	1,303.89	236.07	2,599.37	4,139	37.2%	1,252
Highland Park	9,300	4,665.83	595.95	6,557.21	11,819	44.5%	1,003
Highwood	979	364.12	45.44	1,212.26	1,622	25.3%	744
Island Lake	2,892	1,032.50	363.80	2,155.30	3,552	39.3%	714
Kildeer	1,221	613.81	119.65	1,431.69	2,165	33.9%	1,005
Lake Barrington	2,140	709.70	0.00	1,356.90	2,067	34.3%	663



**TABLE 2.11 2013 RESIDENTIAL WASTE DATA**

	Homes Served	Recycling (tons)	Yard Waste (tons)	Disposed (tons)	Generated (tons)	Diversion (%)	Avg. Lbs/Home/Year Recycled
Lake Bluff	2,120	1,085.86	915.80	1,663.80	3,665	54.6%	1,024
Lake Forest	5,505	3,115.95	1,569.80	6,633.05	11,319	41.4%	1,132
Lake Villa	2,193	550.30	230.20	992.30	1,773	44.0%	502
Lake Zurich	6,030	2,671.87	1,455.15	5,894.10	10,021	41.2%	886
Libertyville	5,597	2,476.14	2,916.80	5,712.66	11,106	48.6%	885
Lincolnshire	2499	939.56	47.19	2,289.98	3,277	30.1%	752
Lindenhurst	4,699	1,614.93	1,472.90	4,688.78	7,777	39.7%	687
Long Grove	2,420	1,001.09	175.62	3,048.71	4,225	27.8%	827
Mundelein	8,315	3,083.02	3,708.80	7,966.62	14,758	46.0%	742
Navy Housing	1,048	284.81	0.00	1,166.56	1,451	19.6%	544
North Barrington	1,036	502.70	152.50	1,724.47	2,380	27.5%	970
North Chicago	3,048	773.15	682.24	4,354.64	5,810	25.0%	507
Park City	298	109.32	145.80	359.12	614	41.5%	734
Port Barrington	480	127.00	49.30	444.00	620	28.4%	529
Riverwoods	1,271	383.74	12.63	1,244.22	1,641	24.2%	604
Round Lake	5,093	1,692.30	578.50	4,965.10	7,236	31.4%	665
Round Lake Beach	7,605	2,443.80	736.15	7,586.40	10,766	29.5%	643
Round Lake Heights	719	228.04	140.40	882.26	1,251	29.5%	634
Round Lake Park	2,859	691.17	97.00	2,078.16	2,866	27.5%	484
Third Lake	409	145.70	41.10	528.30	715	26.1%	712
Tower Lakes	428	151.30	44.20	401.20	597	32.8%	707
Vernon Hills	7,556	2,219.86	993.31	5,872.53	9,086	35.4%	588
Volo	1,210	344.29	91.60	1,192.25	1,628	26.8%	569
Wadsworth	1621	384.26	53.00	1,906.94	2,344	18.7%	474
Wauconda	3,394	1,137.80	372.70	3,239.80	4,750	31.8%	670
Waukegan	19,971	2,315.70	1,997.13	21,554.38	25,867	16.7%	232
Winthrop Harbor	2,281	615.93	1,496.40	2,315.23	4,428	47.7%	540
Zion	6,956	830.09	1,484.64	6,929.09	9,244	25.0%	239
Ela Township	1,304	603.29	241.40	1,315.23	2,160	39.1%	925
Lake Villa Township	2,436	1,072.90	254.70	4,224.80	5,552	23.9%	881
Libertyville Township	1,159	303.10	44.00	834.40	1,182	29.4%	523
Newport Township	75	50.48	16.80	65.23	133	50.8%	1,346
Warren Township	5,486	1,611.90	1,696.80	7,218.70	10,527	31.4%	588
Unincorporated Areas	11,564	1,982.09	1,368.10	14,022.08	17,372	19.3%	343
<b>Total</b>	<b>182,368</b>	<b>58,618.28</b>	<b>33,608.68</b>	<b>179,146.43</b>	<b>271,373</b>	<b>34.0%</b>	<b>643</b>



### 2.5.3 Commercial Waste Franchises

A total of 7 SWALCO member communities have approved commercial franchise agreements. Under the commercial franchise agreements, non-residential properties within the community are provided waste and recycling collection service by a single hauler. All commercial franchise contracts provide a base level of recycling service at no added cost, increasing community access to recycling.

Of the 7 SWALCO members with commercial franchise agreements, only 2 have commenced collection services. Commercial franchises will go into effect in Bannockburn, Deerfield, Grayslake, Gurnee, and Libertyville in 2015, following the 15-month waiting period required by Illinois statute. Commercial franchise collection commenced for the first time in Highland Park in 2009. A new commercial franchise hauler began serving Highwood in 2012. Collection information for these communities is provided in Table 2.12.

TABLE 2.12 COMMERCIAL WASTE FRANCHISE DATA (2009-2013)					
Material	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Highland Park					
Waste	7,341	7,763	7,753	7,605	7,613
Recycling	1,221	1,732	2,060	1,807	1,955
Recycling Rate	14.3%	18.24%	21.00%	19.20%	20.43%
Highwood					
Waste	NA	NA	NA	1,147	1,668
Recycling	NA	NA	NA	63	94
Recycling Rate	NA	NA	NA	5.21%	5.33%
Notes:					
1. Highwood's commercial waste franchise was in place prior to 2012, but no data is available from the prior agreement. A new franchise agreement was executed beginning in 2012.					

## 2.6 Waste Composition

The Illinois Recycling Association (IRA) and Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) commissioned a study, the *Illinois Commodity/Waste Generation and Characterization Study*, in 2008 of waste generation and composition in Illinois. As part of the IRA/DCEO study, samples of waste from each of the two landfills in Lake County were sorted into constituent components. The results of the composition study are summarized in Table 2.13. Generally, it appears that the composition of waste disposed in Lake County is similar to other areas of the state.



**TABLE 2.13 COMPOSITION OF LANDFILLED WASTE (BY WEIGHT)**

Material	Lake County Landfills	Urban County Average	Illinois Average
<b>Paper</b>	<b>21.6%</b>	<b>24.9%</b>	<b>26.2%</b>
Newspaper	2.0%	2.8%	3.1%
Corrugated	6.3%	10.8%	11.0%
Other Paper	13.3%	11.3%	12.2%
<b>Plastic</b>	<b>19.4%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>14.4%</b>
#1 - #7 Containers	3.5%	3.8%	4.0%
Plastic Film	5.3%	4.2%	4.8%
Other Plastic	10.6%	5.7%	5.6%
<b>Glass</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>Metal</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
Aluminum Cans	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Tin Cans	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%
Other Metal	3.7%	3.3%	3.9%
<b>Organics</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>
Yard Waste	3.6%	3.2%	2.8%
Food Scraps	8.9%	13.1%	13.4%
Other Organic	5.7%	5.2%	6.0%
<b>Inorganics</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
Computers/Electronics	4.1%	1.5%	1.4%
Appliances	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Tires	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
Other Inorganic	0.1%	1.2%	1.0%
<b>Textiles</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>7.7%</b>
<b>HHW</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Construction/Demolition</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>20.0%</b>	<b>18.0%</b>
Wood	13.3%	11.4%	10.0%
Other	5.1%	8.6%	8.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.1%</b>	<b>100.1%</b>
# Samples	27	252	315
Source: 1. CDM, <i>Illinois Commodity/Waste Generation and Characterization Study</i> , May 22, 2009.			

Table 2.14 shows a comparison of the results of the 2008 composition study versus a prior study conducted at Lake County landfills in 1993. The earlier study sorted waste materials into 27 categories, whereas the 2008 study sorted waste materials into 79 categories. The 1993 study included two categories (“other combustibles” and “other non-combustibles”) that were combined and reported as “other” in Table 2.14. Material components in the 2008 study which did not readily correspond to the components in the 1993 study were assigned to the “other” category in Table 2.14 -- this explains why “other” materials are twice as large in the 2008 study.



TABLE 2.14 WASTE COMPOSITION AT LAKE COUNTY LANDFILLS (BY WEIGHT)		
Material	1993 Study	2008 Study
Newsprint	8.4%	2.0%
High-Grade Paper	2.0%	3.2%
Other Recyclable Paper	11.4%	4.3%
Other Paper	8.9%	5.9%
Corrugated	10.6%	6.3%
Glass Containers	4.7%	2.2%
HDPE Containers	1.0%	0.7%
PET Bottles	0.4%	1.4%
PVC Containers	0.1%	0.8%
Polystyrene	0.8%	0.7%
Polyethylene Film	4.0%	5.3%
Other Plastic	4.4%	10.6%
Aluminum Cans	0.9%	0.4%
Tin and Bi-Metal	1.5%	1.1%
Other Aluminum	0.3%	1.5%
Other Ferrous	3.2%	1.8%
Other Non-Ferrous	0.5%	0.4%
Wood	3.7%	13.3%
Textiles, Rubber, Leather	4.7%	10.5%
Disposal Diapers	3.1%	2.0%
Food Waste	13.2%	8.9%
Grass Clippings	0.3%	1.1%
Other Landscape Waste	3.1%	2.5%
Fines	2.8%	0.0%
Household Batteries	0.1%	0.1%
Other	6.0%	13.1%
Total	100.1%	100.0%
# Samples	90	27
Source:		
1. CDM, <i>Illinois Commodity/Waste Generation and Characterization Study</i> , May 22, 2009. Data are for samples of waste sorted at Lake County landfills.		
2. CDM, <i>Final Report of Municipal Solid Waste Characterization Study for Solid Waste Agency of Lake County</i> , November 2, 1993.		

Because a larger number of samples were sorted in the 1993 study, some care must be taken in comparing the results of the two studies. Further, the 1993 study conducted sorts over three seasons versus a single season for the 2008 study. Nonetheless, it would appear that commonly recycled materials such as newsprint, corrugated, aluminum cans, tin cans and glass containers are less prevalent in the 2008 landfilled waste, suggesting that these materials are being removed by recycling programs in Lake County.



## SECTION 3 IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE 2009 PLAN UPDATE

The 2009 Plan Update was adopted by the Lake County Board on April 13, 2010 and has acted as an important policy document and benchmark for Lake County's overall solid waste management program. As Lake County transitions to its 2014 Plan Update it is important to review the progress made in implementing the recommendations contained in the 2009 Plan Update. This section provides such a review by listing each of the 2009 Plan Update recommendations and commenting on the implementation status of each recommendation.

### 3.1 Implementation Status

Table 3.1 contains a listing of the recommendations contained in the 2009 Plan Update with respect to the following major plan components:

- Public Information and Education
- Recycling
- Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Management
- Landfilling
- Solid Waste Transfer
- Alternative Technologies
- Organization and Administration
- Finance and Ownership
- Legislative Initiatives
- Host Community Benefit Agreements

For each listed recommendation information has been provided as to whether the recommendation was implemented or not during the past five years. Additional comments have also been provided for many of the recommendations.

In the past five years Lake County has made considerable progress in its waste/material reduction and final disposal programs, including these highlights:

- The 60% Recycling Task Force Report has prompted numerous Lake County municipalities and the County of Lake to implement new programs, as shown in Table 2.10. Twenty-six units of local government have a volume based option for their residents, 40 have large recycling carts, 19 have options to upgrade to a larger recycling cart at no cost, 8 have mandatory construction and demolition debris recycling ordinances, 7 have or will have commercial franchises with free recycling options, 8 include multi-family residents in their residential franchise contracts that provide recycling programs, and 32 participate in either electronics, clothing and/or pharmaceutical collection events.
- Lake County amended its Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance in 2013 which now requires all residents living in unincorporated Lake County to have recycling service as part of their refuse service. The amendment also enhanced the County's existing



C&D recycling ordinance and requires all licensed haulers to offer recycling services in writing to its businesses customers that are not recycling, at least once every two years.

- Lake County operates the largest and most successful electronics recycling program in the State; in 2013 nearly 4 million pounds were collected from 41 collection sites/partners. SWALCO recently expanded its electronics program to businesses, institutions, and schools through a partnership with eWorks Electronic Services, Inc.
- SWALCO owns and operates one of the four permanent household hazardous waste sites in Illinois and collects on average 600,000 pounds of HHW per year. SWALCO is working with local law enforcement on legislation that will allow local law enforcement agencies to bring controlled substances to SWALCO's facility; currently 14 local police departments collect pharmaceuticals, including controlled substances in Lake County.
- In 2013 SWALCO entered into a clothing and shoe recycling partnership with Chicago Textile Recycling. To date, there are 13 collection bins for clothes and shoes, and 29 collection locations for shoes only throughout Lake County.
- The RecycleFirstTrashLast education campaign kicked off in 2012 and continues to this day. The focus of the message is to make residents and businesses think of discards as a material rather than a waste. In essence, to flip people's thinking as we move to a materials management approach away from a waste management approach - a fundamental behavior change.
- Through its legislative effort SWALCO has been a leader in developing and advocating for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation, including amendments to the electronics law, the plastic bag bill, and most recently the paint and carpet EPR bills.
- In 2012 SWALCO entered into an agreement with Waste Management, Inc. to monitor the Countryside Landfill for hydrogen sulfide levels. Three monitors have been running 24 hours a day for 7 days a week since 2012, and if the limits in the agreement are exceeded there are monetary penalties that can be assessed. This is the first landfill in Illinois to have such a monitoring system put in place.
- In 2013 Lake County had its first garbage transfer station receive local siting approval from Round Lake Park. It also represented the first time a life cycle assessment was performed as part of the pre-siting process, as required by the 2009 Plan Update.





Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations		
Public Information and Education	Recommendation	Status of Implementation
P1	Identify new and support ongoing activities of SWALCO's public information and education programs to encourage waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery (buying recycled products) through SWALCO's websites and other publications, as well as community organizations such as PTA/PTO's, park districts, libraries, church, corporate and other community groups. The importance of buying recycled products should be emphasized when possible as this creates markets for additional materials and diverts these materials from final disposal.	Implementation ongoing. Continue to update website with new pages and information. Green Days, an online website guide with articles on a number of environmental topics, especially those related to the 4Rs. Written articles for member newsletters and websites. Coordinated numerous Recycle-O-Rama events to encourage recycling, waste reduction, reuse and buying recycled. Worked with park districts, church groups, schools, corporate groups and other community organizations on the Reuse-A-Shoe program. Opportunity for many not familiar with SWALCO to learn more about the agency and recycling/waste reduction. This program reaches thousands of people in the Lake County community with everyone from teachers to local businesses to legislators working with SWALCO. Expanded the Earth Day Open House - invited new vendors, more outreach to the community and more activities. Awarded a marketing program by the Curbside Value Partnership (CVP) in 2012 which lead to a county wide education campaign built around the slogan, RecycleFirstTrashLast. Program included multi-media campaign, development of new recycling guidelines and a toolkit of useful marketing tools. Awarded IEPA education grants for our electronics recycling program in 2013 and 2104.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>P2</b>	Continue to provide in-house marketing support to help publicize SWALCO technical programs, such as the household chemical waste collections and recycling programs. Identify new marketing opportunities or avenues.	Implementation ongoing. Created and distributed various flyers, posters, brochures and articles to help publicize SWALCO programs. Worked with local media and newspapers. Attended community events with a variety of these materials. Communicate in various ways with our member communities (Member Service Bulletins, Special Informational Emails). Interviewed on local cable TV programs to send out info about SWALCO and its programs. Also utilized two email-list services to provide information about programming. Developed Facebook page and Twitter account to utilize social media to help publicize events.
<b>P3</b>	Continue to encourage SWALCO members to design, evaluate and distribute information for residents regarding various solid waste management issues, and to inform SWALCO of waste-related activities within their communities. Assist member communities in their efforts by acting as a resource and providing information and educational assistance. Support community events and local organizations by attending local events and/or providing materials regarding SWALCO's various programs and other environmental initiatives.	Implementation ongoing. Worked closely with members. Stayed in touch via phone calls, emails, special articles, member service bulletins, discussions at Board meetings, etc. Provided ready-to-go articles and news bits for their newsletters and websites to make it convenient for them. Provided special posters and flyers for members to post. Many members did not have links on their websites to SWALCO -- encouraged them to add these links for their members -- most of our members added these links and have regular announcements and articles in their newsletter, website and email-list services. SWALCO PIO officer and other staff attended over 100 community events in the past five years, plus CVP campaign included the use of "street teams" at many local events to spread the word about RecycleFirstTrashLast.
<b>P4</b>	Ask and encourage SWALCO members to advertise SWALCO events and programs on their websites, community newsletters, e-list bulletin announcements as well as other technologies and approaches to help provide information to their residents. Request that members provide a point of contact for assisting SWALCO's Public Information Officer and that this point of contact information be kept up-to-date.	Implementation ongoing. Developed database of contacts for each municipality and asked for their assistance in advertising events. Numerous SWALCO members have added content to their websites regarding SWALCO events. Work closely with members on mobile HCW events held throughout the County during spring, summer and fall seasons. Also work closely with members on HCW events held 24 times per year in Gurnee. Members who host e-scrap collection sites also provide on-going information to their residents about these sites.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>P5</b>	Develop partnerships with the business community, waste haulers, institutions, service and professional organizations and governmental entities to expand the outreach potential for focused educational efforts.	Implementation ongoing. Reached out and worked with community groups and businesses via Reuse-A-Shoe program. Also provided information to those contacts regarding SWALCO's other programs. Gave talks and presentations and set up informational displays and booths for a variety of community organizations and businesses, providing information and answering questions. Partnered with Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA) on Earth Day Open House and other workshops for students and teachers. Worked with and was a member of other educational and PR groups in Lake County. Also worked with groups from Lake County Government as part of the PIO group with Communications and other LC Departments. Worked with Health Department and others on special projects, including the Pharmaceutical Education project which helped to promote SWALCO's HCW program. Partnered with waste haulers on the CVP educational campaign.
<b>P6</b>	Continue to support and evaluate school education outreach efforts that meet Illinois Learning Standards, such as the Lake County Earth Flag Program, the Earth Flag Everyday supplemental program, the educational website, subsidized performances by environmental educators and in-class presentations.	Implementation ongoing. Coordinated/implemented the Earth Flag and Earth Flag Everyday programs, worked with more than 100 Lake County Schools. Guided efforts and offered resources for teaching the 4Rs. Provided subsidized performances by environmental educators to reinforce and celebrate the good work we did together.
<b>P7</b>	Identify and utilize applicable public and school education resources to develop customized activities for Lake County.	Implementation ongoing. Worked with educational alliance group in Lake County. Worked with Regional Office of Education. Also worked with local libraries. Continue to collect information and resources to share with schools (K-12).



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>P8</b>	Continue to evaluate communication efforts (e.g., SWALCO branding, advertising and other promotional efforts) to determine their effectiveness, and evaluate the communication efforts on a yearly basis. Consider new communication techniques and continue to build relationships within Lake County to assist in reaching education and outreach goals.	Implementation ongoing. Developed and implemented substantial education campaign in partnership with CVP and members in 2012 which continues to current day. Appropriated over \$80,000 for campaign and continue to provide funding each fiscal year to continue effort (but at lower rate). Significant branding achieved with RecycleFirstTrashLast campaign. Developed new flyers, certificates, brochures, etc. with new and consistent messaging. Heavily promoted the website and the email-list services, including one specifically for educators. Developed contact lists and worked with local PR groups.
<b>P9</b>	Continue to embrace and incorporate new information technologies in SWALCO's promotional efforts (e.g., websites, email services, etc.).	Implementation ongoing. Website updates continued. Two email-list services. Also developed relationships with and worked with member communities to utilize their email serves and other promotional tools. Always looking for new social media tools to help promote programs and projects.
<b>P10</b>	Continue to support the EduCycle Center in Grayslake as well as other related organizations.	Implemented. Have partnered with WMRA on programs, Earth Day events, workshops, workshops for teachers. Have encouraged many school groups SWALCO is working with to tour the facility, over 31,500 visitors to the WMRA EduCycle center in the past five years. WMRA facility used for the media event to kick off the CVP RecycleFirstTrashLast education campaign.
<b>P11</b>	Investigate opportunities for public outreach at special events (e.g. Lake County Fair).	Implementation ongoing. Participated at a variety of community events, (presentations, open houses, health & safety fairs, Lake County Fair), etc. Also attended special member events throughout each year. Presented and spoke at a number of community events.
<b>P12</b>	Act as a resource and provide technical assistance during emergency events and interruptions of service (e.g. garbage strikes, post-tornado debris management).	Partially implemented. Have provided applicable information and resources after flooding and other county events/incidents, working with Health Department, Communications, etc.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>P13</b>	Develop and continue to update the guidelines for proper separation of landscape waste for composting and recyclables for recycling, targeted at residential households. The goal is to reduce the contaminants that must be managed by compost facilities and recycling centers.	Partially implemented. As part of the CVP education campaign the recycling guidelines were significantly upgraded which included both English and Spanish versions. No new guidelines were developed for composting.
<b>Recycling</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>R1</b>	Maintain and expand collection of data on recycling activity in Lake County. Identify significant recycling data points that reflect changes in recycling activity in Lake County and develop programming that fosters increased diversion of recyclable materials.	Implementation ongoing. Continue to collect and refine collection data while focusing attention on segments that can lead to increased diversion (i.e. C&D and food scraps)
<b>R2</b>	Continue to expand recycling programs to achieve a 45% recycling goal by 2014.	Implementation ongoing. With the development of the 60% Recycling Task Force Report SWALCO members have made considerable progress in implementing PAYT programs, recycling cart upgrades, commercial franchises, multi-family recycling, and construction and demolition recycling ordinances (see Table 2.10 of this Plan for more details).
<b>R3</b>	Convene a task force by July 1, 2010 to investigate, evaluate and develop recommendations on how SWALCO and Lake County can realistically achieve a 60% recycling rate by 2020. The task force members shall include members of the Citizens Advisory Committee and other members as selected and approved by both SWALCO and Lake County. The task force shall complete its investigation and prepare and approve a final report by March 1, 2011. SWALCO will be responsible for coordinating the meetings and preparing the final report.	Implemented. The Task Force was appointed in June 2010 and held 12 meetings and completed its report in December 2011. The final report contained 36 recommendations divided into three main areas: residential, commercial, and construction and demolition debris recycling. Ultimately all 42 SWALCO members voted to either approve or accept the Report.
<b>R4</b>	Continue to support area recyclers in activities that expand their capabilities of diverting marketable materials from landfills when feasible.	Implementation ongoing. Staff continues to reach out to known recyclers and assist as necessary.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>R5</b>	Continue to maintain and enforce the Lake County Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance and if necessary, recommend changes be made to the Ordinance by the Lake County Board.	Implementation ongoing. Pursuant to recommendations in the 60% Recycling Task Force Report the Lake County Board amended the Ordinance on June 11, 2013. The amendment was significant and required all unincorporated residents to have recycling service as part of their collection service, required the haulers to offer volume based (PAYT) service to residents, encouraged haulers to provide carts for recyclables (as opposed to the smaller bins), required haulers to provide recycling education information to their customers every two years, required haulers to provide a written offer to provide recycling services to commercial accounts currently not recycling and upgraded the mandatory construction and demolition debris requirements.
<b>R6</b>	Encourage all SWALCO members and Lake County townships to establish volume based pricing (i.e., programs that provide incentives to reduce the amount of waste disposed) as an option.	Partially implemented. 26 SWALCO members offer a pay as you throw (PAYT) option as of 2014, including limited programs, graduated cart options and sticker programs.
<b>R7</b>	Encourage all SWALCO members to implement cart-based recycling programs within their residential areas.	Partially implemented. As of 2014, 39 SWALCO members and three townships have implemented cart-based recycling programs. Of those 20 have contract provisions that allow residents a one-time opportunity to upgrade from a 65 gallon recycling cart to a 95 gallon recycling cart at no extra charge.
<b>R8</b>	Assist SWALCO members and Lake County townships in franchising residential, multi-family and /or commercial collection services as a means to control costs increase recycling reduce the amount of greenhouse gases associated with collection services, and enhance community sustainability efforts.	Implementation ongoing. Riverwoods, Bannockburn and Beach Park implemented residential franchises for the first time with SWALCO assistance. Mundelein extended its residential franchise to include multi-family dwellings which included recycling services at all locations. In 2013 Grayslake and Libertyville awarded commercial franchise contracts, and in 2014 Deerfield, Bannockburn and Gurnee awarded commercial franchises as well. All five franchises will begin in 2015.
<b>R9</b>	Continue to encourage all SWALCO members to adopt the model commercial and multi-family refuse and recycling enclosure ordinance.	Implementation ongoing. A model ordinance has been provided to all members and several members have enrolled this ordinance into their UDO.





**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>R10</b>	Identify and assist SWALCO members whose residential, commercial and/or multi-family recycling programs are underperforming or can be further optimized; conduct program evaluations and develop recommendations for improving programs. This may require SWALCO's Recycling Coordinator and Public Information Officer working together to enhance the recycling program and the marketing of the program.	Partially implemented. The CVP education campaign was targeted at 20 SWALCO towns that had per household per year recycling totals in the range of 300 to 700 pounds per year, which is lower than the other SWALCO members, some of which recycle over 1,000 pounds per household per year. The purpose of this was to focus education efforts on these towns in hopes of increasing their recycling totals.
<b>R11</b>	Participate in the EPA Waste Wise Program and encourage commercial and industrial establishments, institutions, governmental agencies, and other non-residential entities to participate in source reduction activities.	Not yet implemented due to limitations of staff time. Staff would still like to establish this program to fulfill the need to acknowledge the positive efforts made in the commercial and industrial sectors of the county while also networking and educating others of the benefits of waste reduction and recycling activities.
<b>R12</b>	Depending on availability of funds and agency priorities, continue to further the development of source reduction programs, special event and public area recycling programs, plastic bag recycling programs, compost bin distributions and residential electronics collections.	Partially implemented. SWALCO has sponsored compost bin and rain barrel sales (in cooperation with the Forest Preserve District) in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. Typically, between 400 to 600 units are sold at these events and SWALCO buys extra rain barrels and compost bins for sale throughout the remainder of the year. SWALCO has implemented the most successful electronics collection program in the State and in 2013 collected 3,936,264 pounds of electronics from 41 collection sites. SWALCO also assists its members collect recyclables at special events. Due to staff constraints source reduction programs have not been pursued to date.
<b>R13</b>	Continue to maintain a capacity agreement with a qualified recycling firm (currently Waste Management Recycle America L.L.C.) to assure that sufficient capacity is available to SWALCO members, and that SWALCO members and Lake County townships that direct material to the facility are eligible to receive Per Ton Payment for their recyclables per the terms of the existing Intermediate Processing Facility Capacity Agreement (effective January 1, 2009 for a three year term with two, 2-year renewal options).	Implemented. A new Capacity Agreement with Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA) began in January 2009 with provisions to assure that sufficient capacity shall be available for SWALCO members. It also provides for a Per Ton Payment to members that direct material. It does not protect a members hauler from being assessed a per ton processing charge in down markets. In 2011 SWALCO and WMRA agreed to extend the contract for three years through 2014. SWALCO members have been receiving payments that vary with the market pricing, and received \$1,133,814 in 2011, \$572,767 in 2012 and \$377,942 in 2013.





**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>R14</b>	Encourage SWALCO members and Lake County townships to enter into a Per Ton Payment Intergovernmental Agreement with SWALCO in order to be eligible to receive payment (Per Ton Payment) for their recyclables per the terms of the existing Capacity Agreement.	Implementation ongoing. As of 2014, thirty-five municipalities and two Townships have elected to direct their haulers to deliver their communities' recyclable material to the Waste Management Recycle America MRF.
<b>R15</b>	Encourage the development of general construction or demolition (C&D) debris recycling facilities as permitted by Section 22.38 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act. With the enactment of Public Act 96-0611, general C&D debris recycling facilities can be located in Lake County, without having to obtain local siting approval in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, and instead will be regulated by applicable zoning requirements. As a result, SWALCO will develop zoning guidelines for such facilities that address the location, design, operation and closure of such facilities. These guidelines will be prepared in a timely fashion and sent to all SWALCO members for their consideration, with the recommendation from SWALCO that all the guidelines be included in each member's zoning ordinance. Any proposed general C&D debris recycling facility must enter into a Host Community Agreements with SWALCO and the governing body with the jurisdiction over the proposed facility prior to filing a siting application or zoning application, whichever is applicable. The Host Community Benefit Agreement with SWALCO and the governing body must, at a minimum, contain provisions for: 1) a guarantee of access to capacity at the facility for general C&D material generated in Lake County, 2) environmental safeguards, and 3) payment of host fees.	Partially implemented. In 2009 SWALCO hired a consultant to assist with the preparation of zoning guidelines for general C&D debris recycling facilities. Those guidelines were sent to all SWALCO members. In 2010, Lake County incorporated the zoning guidelines into its zoning code. In 2012 Round Lake Park entered into a Host Community Benefit Agreement with Groot Industries for a recycling facility which was also permitted by the IEPA in 2012. To date, the facility has not been constructed. In 2013, Zion entered into a Host Community Benefit Agreement with American Recycling Systems for an existing facility in Zion. Neither facility owner entered into Host Community Benefit Agreements with SWALCO.
<b>R16</b>	Encourage SWALCO members to adopt a model C&D recycling ordinance that would require the implementation of a recycling program at new construction and/or demolition sites within their communities.	Implementation ongoing. SWALCO developed a model ordinance that was adopted by Highland Park. Since that time similar ordinances have been adopted in Deerfield, Grayslake, Round Lake Beach, Zion, Lake Bluff and Riverwoods. Lake County also updated its ordinance in 2013.



<b>Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations</b>		
<b>R17</b>	Encourage the development of programs to increase the collection and composting of residential and commercial organic material (such as landscape waste, food scrap and livestock waste).	Implementation ongoing. SWALCO assisted Jewel Food Stores implement food scrap collection at all its Lake County stores. SWALCO is a founding member of the IL Food Scrap Coalition which was prompted after holding a one day conference dedicated to food scrap collection in Highland Park on October 19, 2012. The Coalition now has over 80 members and recently launched a website and developed a tool kit for restaurants to implement food scrap programs and a recognition program called "We Compost" that provides a window decal to businesses that are composting food scraps. Finally, the commercial franchises for Grayslake, Libertyville, Bannockburn, Deerfield and Gurnee all include food scrap collection services.
<b>R18</b>	Evaluate recent increases in landscape waste collection and composting costs, and determine if SWALCO needs to take any action to better control and/or reduce the costs associated with both collecting and managing the material.	Not Implemented. Costs for landscape waste services in residential franchise contracts have not been increasing significantly since the 2009 Plan Update. The costs for stickers and subscription programs have not, overall, increased greater than other services under contract. Due to this, staff has not pursued implementation of this recommendation.
<b>Household Chemical Waste Management</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>H1</b>	Continue operating a Household Chemical Waste Collection Program consisting of both public drop-off and mobile collection events operating on a year round basis.	Implemented. For the past five years SWALCO has held 24 public drop-off events and 6 mobile events each year.
<b>H2</b>	Renew the existing Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency when its term expires (April 2012). Explore modifying the Agreement to allow for SWALCO to assume ownership of the waste oil entering the Program and encourage the IEPA to use more sustainable disposal methods for certain waste streams (i.e., latex paint).	Implemented. On March 22, 2012 the SWALCO Board of Directors approved a 5 year extension of the Intergovernmental Agreement with the IEPA that runs through March of 2017.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>H3</b>	Encourage and support SWALCO members in the establishment of supplemental HCW programs such as waste oil collection programs (i.e., Lake Zurich and Lake Barrington), Partner for Paint programs (i.e., Ela Township Highway Department Paint program) and fluorescent lamp collection centers (i.e., Highland Park, Riverwoods and Third Lake Programs).	Implementation ongoing. Continued to provide technical assistance to these supplemental programs, no expansion in the past 5 years though.
<b>H4</b>	Focus on efforts to reduce the volume of latex paint coming into the HCW Program by working closely with existing latex paint recycling firms/programs such as Earth Paints Collection Systems and the Ela Township Highway Dept. Program.	Implementation ongoing. Added information on the SWALCO website about the Earth Paints program. Ela Township's program was terminated when IEPA funding was cut off. SWALCO joined the Product Stewardship Institute in 2011 and has worked closely with PSI and the paint industry to introduce Extended Producer Responsibility legislation require paint manufacturers to take responsibility for the end of life management of latex and oil based paint. Legislation was introduced in 2013 and re-introduced in 2014.
<b>H5</b>	Provide funding for periodic tire collection events. Conduct these events in affiliation with the Lake County Farm Bureau. Sponsor these events on even calendar years (2010, 2012 and 2014).	Not Implemented. Funding not available within the SWALCO budget to pay for tire collection events. IEPA no longer provides funding for one day collection events.
<b>H6</b>	Consider modifying the IEPA Agreement to allow servicing of Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQGs) through our HCW Program as a potential revenue source. Strive to develop a database of CESQGs including waste stream analysis (types/volume), and evaluate the interest of a third party company leasing space at SWALCO's HCW facility to manage the waste collected from CESQGs or other sources..	Not implemented. HCW Engineer's time was focused on SWALCO's hybrid HCW program consisting of mobile collection events and public drop-offs.
<b>H7</b>	Maintain a listing of environmental contractors and disposal programs (IEPA's laboratory waste collection program) to use as a referral for businesses, institutions and school districts.	Implemented. SWALCO maintains a list of environmental contractors on its website.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>H8</b>	Consider offering SWALCO's assistance in conducting one-day collection events for neighboring Illinois counties as another potential revenue source.	Partially implemented. The last Intergovernmental Agreement with IEPA language was added for the option of working with other local government located outside of Lake County. Out of County collections never conducted however. HCW Engineer's time was consumed on SWALCO's hybrid HCW program consisting of mobile collection events and public drop-offs.
<b>H9</b>	Consider establishing one or more additional HCW satellite collection center(s) (e.g., fire station) within the next five years taking into consideration the results of the Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire District HCW satellite collection center.	Partially implemented. SWALCO implemented a Satellite Collection Center at the Lincolnshire Riverwoods Fire Station # 51 in Lincolnshire in 2010. Based on the cost and results (very low volumes of HCW are being collected at this location) from that site SWALCO has not pursued another satellite site.
<b>Landfilling</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>L1</b>	Maintain existing contracts and/or negotiate new contract provisions with the three sanitary landfills serving Lake County (Countryside Landfill, Pheasant Run Landfill and Zion Landfill) to provide for privately-owned-and-operated landfill disposal capacity for Lake County's waste requiring disposal. Such capacity guarantee should provide capacity for a portion of Lake County's waste for as long as the landfill has permitted capacity and remains an open site per the appropriate state regulations. SWALCO will consider expanding the list of landfills (locate outside of Lake County) deemed to be serving Lake County if the owner of the landfill proposed for inclusion first negotiates a host agreement with SWALCO. The host agreement must provide for a capacity guarantee and payment of a host fee for each ton of Lake County waste taken to the landfill.	Partially Implemented. In January 2010, SWALCO and Lake County entered into a new Host Agreement with the Zion Landfill which provided the County with landfill capacity in the existing landfill and once the expansion area was permitted an additional six years of capacity was provided (runs through June 2017). In February of 2010 SWALCO entered into an agreement with Republic Industries that provides capacity at three landfills (Livingston Landfill, Lee County Landfill and Newton County Landfill) for a period of 10 years. The capacity agreement with the Countryside Landfill has expired. In June of 2010, SWALCO and Lake County entered into an intergovernmental agreement that resulted in the Affected Area Compensation fee to be paid directly to Lake County (instead of SWALCO which then transferred the money to Lake County) and allowing SWALCO to levy the local surcharge directly at 75% of the fee and Lake County at 25% of the fee.
<b>L2</b>	Continue to implement source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting programs to reduce dependence on landfilling.	Implementation ongoing. Amount of SWALCO waste landfilled continues to decrease.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>L3</b>	If one or both of the two existing landfills in Lake County (Zion Landfill and Countryside Landfill) propose an expansion onto property that is directly adjoining or within 250 feet of an existing portion of the permitted footprint of the landfill (horizontal) and/or on top of (vertical expansion) the existing landfill's permitted airspace, and the proposed expansion meets the requirements of Recommendation A.1, the proposed expansion will be considered consistent with the Plan.	Implemented. Veolia (now Advanced Disposal) filed a siting application with the City of Zion on February 8, 2010. After conducting the siting hearings, the City granted approval to the expansion, with conditions, on August 3, 2010. The expansion added approximately 12.3 million tons or 18 years of capacity to the Zion Landfill.
<b>L4</b>	With less than ten years of permitted landfill capacity in Lake County, a new landfill would be considered as a local solution to managing Lake County's waste. If the proposed new landfill meets the applicable requirements of the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan (Recommendations L.5 and L.6) it will be considered consistent with the Plan.	No new landfills were proposed in Lake County in the past five years.
<b>L5</b>	SWALCO and the siting authority (the unit of local government with siting jurisdiction in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act) will continue using the three guidelines that were outlined in the 1989 Plan for evaluating landfilling technology. These guidelines are: utilize proven technology, minimize emissions, and avoid large economic risks. SWALCO's and the siting authority's determination on whether the proposed facility is consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan will be based, in part, on the applicant addressing the following questions in the plan consistency (siting criterion number 8 of Section 39.2 of the Act) portion of the siting application.	No new landfills were proposed in Lake County in the past five years.
<b>L6</b>	Any proposed new landfill facility must meet the requirements of Recommendation A.1 (Host Community Benefit Agreements).	No new landfills were proposed in Lake County in the past five years.
<b>L7</b>	Encourage existing and new landfill owners to design and implement landfill technologies such as leachate recirculation systems to extend the life expectancy, reduce long term toxicity and conserve natural resources when possible and environmentally appropriate.	Neither landfill is currently recirculating its leachate.



<b>Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations</b>		
<b>L8</b>	Encourage existing and new landfill owners to design and implement gas collection and management systems that capture and utilize the maximum amount of landfill gas for energy recovery as opposed to direct flaring of some or all of the landfill gas.	Implementation ongoing. Both landfills have gas to energy plants that capture a majority of the landfill gas and convert it to electricity.
<b>Solid Waste Transfer</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>T1</b>	Solid waste transfer stations, if developed in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan (Recommendations T.2 through T.6), will be considered consistent with the Plan. The recommendations (T.1 through T.6) are not applicable to landscape waste transfer stations or general construction and demolition debris recycling facilities as permitted under Section 22.38 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, but are applicable to any transfer station that meets the definition of a pollution control facility under the Act.	Implemented. On June 21, 2013 Groot Industries filed a siting application with the Village of Round Lake Park for a 750 ton per day transfer station facility. On December 12, 2013 the Village granted siting approval with 24 special conditions. Lake County and SWALCO both certified that the proposed facility was consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan.
<b>T2</b>	A transfer station site should be large enough to provide for a facility large enough to safely and efficiently manage the anticipated volume of waste, adequate buffering and screening, stormwater management, and safe traffic flow. If the site is proposed for additional functions, including but not limited to, vehicle and equipment storage, vehicle maintenance, office space, processing of recyclables or processing of waste into a fuel it must be demonstrated the site is large enough for all proposed functions.	Implemented. The proposed Groot site in Round Lake Park was approximately 3.9 acres and was determined to be properly designed by the siting authority. The transfer station facility itself will be approximately 27,800 square feet.





**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>T3</b>	Transfer station operations – related to the unloading of refuse, recyclables, and landscape waste, temporary storage of the materials on the tipping floor, and the loading of transfer trailers – must be located within a portion of the transfer station that can be completely enclosed. (This does not require the transfer station to keep its incoming and outgoing doors closed during operations unless proximity to a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulated airport requires that doors open and close with the acceptance of waste. This does prohibit the development of a three sided and/or an open top structure as a transfer station in Lake County.) Developers are strongly encouraged to incorporate green/sustainable building principles into the design and operation of the facility and the overall site.	Implemented. The proposed Groot facility in Round Lake Park is an enclosed facility and has agreed to keep its inbound and outbound doors closed during the hours of 4 am to 8 am and from 6 pm to 9 pm, Monday through Friday, and from 4 am to 8 am on Saturdays.
<b>T4</b>	Transfer station developers must include in the design and operation of the facility the transfer of recyclables and landscape waste. Transfer station developers are encouraged to evaluate the processing of solid waste into a renewable resource that could be transported to off-site markets.	Implemented. The proposed Groot facility in Round Lake Park does include in its design and operating plan the transfer of recyclables and landscape waste.
<b>T5</b>	SWALCO and the siting authority (the unit of local government with siting jurisdiction in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act) will continue to use the three guidelines that were outlined in the 1989 Plan for evaluating transfer station technology. These guidelines are: utilize proven technology; minimize emissions; and avoid large economic risks. SWALCO's and the siting authority's determination on whether the proposed facility is consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan will be based, in part, on the applicant addressing the following questions in the plan consistency (siting criterion number 8 of Section 39.2 of the Act) portion of the siting application.	Implemented. The siting application for the proposed Groot transfer station in Round Lake Park did address this recommendation and the questions posed in this recommendation.
<b>T6</b>	Any proposed transfer station facility must meet the requirements of Recommendation A.1 (Host Community Benefit Agreements).	Implemented. The developer of the proposed transfer station in Round Lake Park, Groot, did enter into Host Agreements with Round Lake Park, SWALCO and Lake County.





**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

Alternative Technologies	Recommendation	Status of Implementation
<b>AT1</b>	With less than ten years of permitted landfill capacity in Lake County, alternative technologies, which are limited to technologies that convert waste to energy through biological conversion (i.e., anaerobic digestion technologies, not including mass burn incineration, or thermal or chemical conversion such as gasification), should be considered as a local and sustainable solution to managing Lake County's waste. If the proposed alternative technology facility meets the applicable requirements of the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan (Recommendations AT.2 and AT.3) and it is 500 tons per day or less in design capacity (based on 365 days per year) it will be considered consistent with the Plan.	No new alternative technology facility has been proposed in Lake County in the past five years.
<b>AT2</b>	SWALCO and the siting authority (the unit of local government with siting jurisdiction in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act) will continue to use the three guidelines that were outlined in the 1989 Plan for evaluating alternative technologies. These guidelines are: utilize proven technology; minimize emissions; and avoid large economic risks. SWALCO's and the siting authority's determination on whether the proposed facility is consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan will be based, in part, on the applicant addressing the following questions in the plan consistency (siting criterion number 8 of Section 39.2 of the Act) portion of the siting application.	No new alternative technology facility has been proposed in Lake County in the past five years.
<b>AT3</b>	Any proposed alternative technology facility must meet the requirements of Recommendation A.1 (Host Community Benefit Agreements).	No new alternative technology facility has been proposed in Lake County in the past five years.



<b>Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations</b>		
<b>Organization and Administration</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>O1</b>	Continue the coordinated countywide approach to the management and disposal of all nonhazardous waste generated within Lake County, including the management of recyclable and recoverable materials. Place increased emphasis on non-residential waste, including commercial, industrial waste and construction and demolition debris.	Implementation ongoing. Seven SWALCO members have adopted mandatory construction and demolition debris recycling ordinances since the 2009 Plan Update and Lake County amended its existing ordinance in 2013. In addition, five SWALCO members have entered into commercial franchise contracts that are set to begin in 2015.
<b>O2</b>	SWALCO should continue providing centralized management of the plan implementation process and other municipalities currently not SWALCO members should be encouraged to join SWALCO.	Implemented. Two municipalities have joined SWALCO since the 2009 Plan Update, Bannockburn and Volo. SWALCO now represents 43 municipalities, the County of Lake and the Great Lakes Naval Training Center.
<b>O3</b>	SWALCO members should assume responsibility for: (i) adopting necessary waste management ordinances, (ii) providing administrative and operational funding for SWALCO as determined by SWALCO Board of Directors and (iii) using the waste management and disposal system established by SWALCO.	Implemented. In 2012, SWALCO members approved increasing the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) fee of \$1 per household per year to \$1.24 in 2013 and \$1.25 in 2014 and thereafter.
<b>O4</b>	The Board of Directors shall provide for professional staff and resources necessary to undertake all programs to implement the Solid Waste Plan. As programs are altered, it may be necessary to adjust staffing levels to implement program changes.	Implemented. Due to budget constraints the position of the Public Information Officer continues to be a part-time position.
<b>O5</b>	Maintain the designation of one or more designated Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) as an official component of SWALCO's waste management system and encourage all members and non-members to utilize the MRF or MRFs for recyclables collected within their municipal boundaries; continue to establish and designate other components of the waste management system as appropriate.	Implemented. SWALCO extended its agreement with WMRA (effective January 1, 2009) for another three year term that expires December 31, 2014. The agreement continues to designate the Grayslake MRF as an official component of the waste management system and provides for greater revenue for recyclables depending on market conditions.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

<b>O6</b>	Obtain input from the public in the development of solid waste policies, such as from a citizen's advisory group. Prior to adopting the next update to the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan establish a new citizen's advisory committee (CAC) to help in the preparation of a draft plan update for review and approval by the SWALCO Board of Directors and the Lake County Board.	Implemented. SWALCO led the effort of a 27 member task force that met 12 times from June 2010 to October 2011 and produced the 60% Recycling Task Force Report which has been formally included in this Plan Update as part of the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan. SWALCO also convened a CAC that included the members of the 60% Task Force and the CAC met three times in 2014 and assisted with the development of the Plan submitted to the SWALCO board and Lake County Board for final approval.
<b>Finance and Ownership</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>F1</b>	Monitor operations of the three sanitary landfills currently under agreement with SWALCO for the provision of a given amount of privately-owned-and-operated landfill disposal capacity, secured by contract/agreement. Retain, as a long term option, the public ownership of recycling, composting and/or final disposal facilities to meet the waste/material needs of Lake County.	Partially implemented. The capacity agreement with the Countryside Landfill has expired. The agreement with the Zion Landfill was extended through June of 2017. Finally, SWALCO entered into an agreement with Republic in 2010 that provides disposal capacity for a ten year period at three Republic Landfills that serve the Chicagoland market.
<b>F2</b>	Examine and where determined appropriate, pursue all reasonably available sources of interim and long-term funding for implementing programs and facilities recommended in the Plan Update.	Implementation ongoing. SWALCO has diversified its funding and now relies on the landfill surcharge for only 59% of its funding (historically the Agency relied on the landfill fee for nearly 100% of its funding). Other new sources include the O&M fee, the Per Ton Agreement with WMRA, the electronics agreement with Sims and the recent clothing and shoe agreement with Chicago Textile Recycling.
<b>F3</b>	SWALCO and Lake County should monitor and apply to federal, state and private sources for grants and loans to be used for capital assistance when such funding is consistent with the goals of the Plan.	Implementation ongoing. SWALCO has provided letters of support for several applicants in Lake County. In addition, SWALCO was chosen for a privately funded marketing campaign by Curbside Value Partnership (a 501(c)3 formed by numerous companies in the packaging industry) that had a value of nearly \$200,000 in marketing consulting services.



<b>Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations</b>		
<b>F4</b>	SWALCO members and non-members should be encouraged to consider other available sources of assistance grants and funds to finance and operate local recycling projects.	Implementation ongoing. Lake Forest received an IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity recycling grant to purchase residential recycling carts.
<b>Legislative Initiatives</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>I1</b>	Utilize the SWALCO Legislative Committee to develop the annual Legislative Policy for approval by the Board of Directors. SWALCO's legislative efforts should be coordinated with Lake County and other entities.	Implemented. The legislative policy is developed by the Legislative Committee and approved by the SWALCO Board of Directors annually.
<b>Host Community Benefit Agreements</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementation</b>
<b>A1</b>	<p>Any pollution control facility must enter into a Host Community Benefit Agreement with the appropriate units of local government. Prior to filing a siting application, pursuant to Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, for a new pollution control facility or for an expansion or significant modification to an existing pollution control facility, the applicant shall first enter into Host Community Benefit Agreements with the following units of local government in chronological order: 1) the governing body with jurisdiction over the proposed facility, 2) SWALCO and 3) Lake County. In addition, the applicant may enter into additional Host Community Benefit Agreements with other appropriate units of local government, as determined by the applicant. In the event the applicant represents an existing pollution control facility with existing Host Community Benefit Agreements, the applicant shall amend each existing Host Community Agreement with each respective party prior to filing the siting application with the governing body.</p> <p>The new and/or amended Host Community Benefit Agreements must, at a minimum, contain provisions for: 1) a guarantee of access to capacity at the</p>	Implemented. The proposed Groot transfer station in Round Lake Park met the requirement of this recommendation by preparing and holding the required meeting on the life cycle assessment, and entering into Host Community Benefit Agreements with Round Lake Park, SWALCO and Lake County.



**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

	<p>facility for Lake County's unincorporated and incorporated solid waste, 2) environmental safeguards, and 3) payment of host benefit fees.</p> <p>As part of the host agreement negotiations with all applicable units of local government and prior to the approval or disapproval of the host agreements, the developer must demonstrate, using the USEPA's MSW DST life cycle assessment model or a SWALCO approved life cycle assessment model, that its proposed disposal option is superior to the current system for at least three of the four parameters (net annual energy consumption, sulfur oxides emissions, nitrogen oxides emissions and carbon dioxide emissions), one of which must be carbon dioxide emissions. The life cycle assessment results and all input data must be provided to all interested parties and presented in a public meeting hosted by the governing authority with jurisdiction for siting, and both SWALCO and Lake County representatives will be invited to the same public meeting (the intent is to have one public meeting that all units of local government that must approve host agreements would attend jointly). The life cycle assessment results must be made available to SWALCO (and posted on SWALCO's website) and other interested parties at least 30 days prior to the public meeting in order to provide interested parties time to evaluate and comment on the results.</p> <p>All reasonable and necessary costs, including but not limited to legal fees and consulting fees, associated with the development of Host Community Benefit Agreements, and the evaluation of the life cycle assessment model and data shall be paid for by the developer to the affected units of local government. The developer will be required to establish an escrow account or multiple escrow accounts that the units of local government can draw on to pay for their reasonable and necessary costs. The amount of the escrow account or accounts shall be equal to the amount of the reasonable and necessary costs and funded as necessary to cover such</p>	
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**Table 3.1 Implementation Status of the 2009 Plan Update Recommendations**

	costs. This is consistent with the provision in Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act which authorizes units of local government to charge applicants pursuing siting approval for a pollution control facility a fee to cover the reasonable and necessary costs incurred by the unit of local government in the siting review process.	
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## **SECTION 4 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2014-2019 PLANNING PERIOD**

### **4.1 Introduction**

This Section of the 2014 Plan Update contains the policy recommendations approved by the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), the SWALCO Board of Directors and the Lake County Board. It should be noted that many of the recommendations from the 2009 Plan Update are still included in this Plan Update. Two of the more significant programs and documents developed in the past five years that affect this 2014 Plan Update are the 60% Recycling Task Force Report (incorporated into this Plan Update and presented in Attachment D) finalized in December 2011 and the RecycleFirstTrashLast Education campaign and strategy (also incorporated in this Plan Update as Attachment E) first implemented in 2012.

The primary driver of Lake County's efforts to divert waste/material from the landfill are the 36 recommendations in the Task Force Report which are divided into three sectors: 1) residential (20 recommendations), 2) commercial (14 recommendations), and 3) construction and demolition (C&D) debris (2 recommendations). The Report, coupled with this Plan Update, will provide the direction necessary to attempt to reach the 60% diversion goal by 2020 as established in the Report.

With respect to final disposal recommendations the list of acceptable facilities remains the same as the 2009 Plan Update (landfills, transfer stations and facilities that biologically treat waste are permitted but mass burn incineration, and thermal or chemical conversion facilities such as gasification are not permitted). Modifications were made to the transfer station facility requirements and to the life cycle assessment process.

The recommendations in Section 4.2 have been organized according to the following planning categories:

- Public Information and Education
- Source Reduction and Reuse (new, not in 2009 Plan Update)
- Recycling
- Organics Management (new, not in 2009 Plan Update)
- Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Management
- Landfilling
- Solid Waste Transfer
- Alternative Technologies
- Organization and Administration
- Finance and Ownership
- Legislative Initiatives
- Host Community Benefit Agreements





## 4.2 Planning Recommendations for 2014-2019

The following recommendations represent the key elements of the 2014 Plan Update. As discussed in Section 1, the recommendations regarding final disposal facilities requiring siting per Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (415 ILCS 5/39.2) are the recommendations that a proposed pollution control facility applicant must demonstrate consistency with in order to be granted approval under siting criterion 8 of Section 39.2.

### 4.2.1 Public Information and Education

- P.1 Identify new and support ongoing activities of SWALCO's public information and education programs to encourage waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery/re-buy (buying recycled products) and sustainability practices through SWALCO's websites and other publications, as well as community organizations such as PTA/PTO's, park districts, libraries, church, corporate and other community groups. The importance of buying recycled products should be emphasized when possible as this creates markets for additional materials and diverts these materials from final disposal. Continue to utilize the RecycleFirstTrashLast education campaign and marketing tools to increase recycling in Lake County (see Attachment E for a copy of the Campaign Plan and Timeline).
- P.2 Continue to provide in-house marketing support to help publicize SWALCO technical programs, such as the household chemical waste collections and recycling programs. Identify new marketing opportunities or avenues.
- P.3 Continue to encourage SWALCO members to design, evaluate and distribute information for residents regarding various solid waste management issues, and to inform SWALCO of waste-related and environmental activities within their communities. Assist member communities in their efforts by acting as a resource and providing information and educational assistance. Support community events and local organizations by attending local events and/or providing materials regarding SWALCO's various programs and other environmental initiatives.
- P.4 Ask and encourage SWALCO members to advertise SWALCO events and programs on their websites, community newsletters, e-list bulletin announcements as well as other technologies and approaches to help provide information to their residents. Request that members provide a point of contact for assisting SWALCO's Public Information Officer and that this point of contact information be kept up-to-date.
- P.5 Develop partnerships with the business community, waste haulers, institutions, service and professional organizations, and governmental entities to expand the outreach potential for focused educational efforts.
- P.6 Continue to support and evaluate school education outreach efforts that meet Illinois Learning Standards, such as the Lake County Earth Flag Program, the Earth Flag Everyday supplemental program, the educational website, subsidized performances by environmental educators, and in-class presentations. Develop or locate resource materials that will assist schools in implementing source separated organics collection programs and on-site composting operations.
- P.7 Identify and utilize applicable public and school education resources to develop customized activities for Lake County.
- P.8 Continue to evaluate the communication efforts (e.g., SWALCO branding, RecycleFirstTrashLast, advertising and other promotional efforts) to determine their effectiveness, and evaluate the communication efforts on a yearly basis. Consider new



communication techniques and continue to build relationships within Lake County to assist in reaching education and outreach goals.

- P.9 Continue to embrace and incorporate new information technologies in SWALCO's promotional efforts (e.g., websites, email services, etc.) and evaluate the development of a mobile phone application that can be used to help residents find the location of facilities that will accept a wide range of hard to recycle or reuse items (and link to the "How do I recycle this" page on SWALCO's website).
- P.10 Continue to collaborate with the EduCycle Center in Grayslake, as well as other related organizations.
- P.11 Investigate opportunities for public outreach at special events (e.g. Lake County Fair). Participate in member community events such as Community Days, Open Houses and other special events.
- P.12 Act as a resource and provide technical assistance during emergency events and interruptions of service (e.g. floods, garbage strikes, post-tornado debris management).
- P.13 Develop and continue to update guidelines for proper separation of landscape waste for composting and recyclables for recycling, targeted at residential households. The goal is to reduce the contaminants that must be managed by compost facilities and recycling centers.

#### **4.2.2 Source Reduction and Reuse**

- SR.1 Continue to promote the implementation of pay as you throw (PAYT) programs for the residential sector to provide an economic incentive for residents to reduce the amount of waste they generate through source reduction and reuse opportunities.
- SR.2 Continue the implementation of SWALCO's clothing and shoe collection program that currently includes 13 collection locations with bins for clothing/shoes and over 29 collection locations for shoes only. The majority of the material collected is reused.
- SR.3 Investigate the feasibility of incorporating a reuse component to SWALCO's Household Chemical Waste program where items that are still useful could be donated or given away instead of disposed.
- SR.4 Develop educational materials and website content related to source reduction tips for residents and information on reuse of household items, furniture, clothing, construction materials, etc.

#### **4.2.3 Recycling**

- R.1 Maintain and expand collection of data on recycling activity in Lake County. Identify significant recycling data points that reflect changes in recycling activity in Lake County and develop programming that fosters increased diversion of recyclable materials.
- R.2 Incorporate the 60% Recycling Task Force Report into the 2014 Plan Update (see Attachment D) and continue to expand recycling programs as recommended in the Task Force Report to achieve a 60% recycling goal by 2020 (current estimated municipal waste recycling rate is 48%, see Figure 2.3). Lake County and each municipality will decide which recommendations from the Report to implement based on local needs and input. The 60% goal in the Report is significantly greater than the 25% goal in the Illinois



Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act, and is a goal that Lake County and its municipalities have voluntarily chosen to attain.

- R.3 Continue to support area recyclers in activities that expand their capabilities of diverting marketable materials from landfills when feasible.
- R.4 Continue to maintain and enforce the Lake County Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance and if necessary, recommend changes be made to the Ordinance by the Lake County Board.
- R.5 Encourage all SWALCO members and Lake County townships to establish volume based pricing (i.e., programs that provide incentives to reduce the amount of waste disposed) as an option.
- R.6 Encourage all SWALCO members and Lake County townships to implement cart-based recycling programs within their residential areas.
- R.7 Assist SWALCO members and Lake County townships in franchising residential, multi-family and/or commercial collection services as a means to control costs, increase recycling, reduce the amount of greenhouse gases associated with collection services, and enhance community sustainability efforts.
- R.8 Continue to encourage all SWALCO members to adopt the model commercial and multi-family refuse and recycling enclosure ordinance.
- R.9 Identify and assist SWALCO members whose residential, commercial and/or multi-family recycling programs are underperforming or can be further optimized; conduct program evaluations and develop recommendations for improving programs. This may require SWALCO's Recycling Coordinator and Public Information Officer working together to enhance the recycling program and the marketing of the program.
- R.10 Depending on availability of funds and agency priorities, continue to further the development of source reduction programs, special event and public area recycling programs, plastic bag recycling programs, compost bin distributions and residential electronics collections.
- R.11 Continue to maintain a Capacity Agreement with a qualified recycling firm (currently Waste Management Recycle America L.L.C.) to assure that sufficient capacity is available to SWALCO members, and that SWALCO members and Lake County townships that direct material to the facility are eligible to receive a Per Ton Payment for their recyclables per the terms of the existing Intermediate Processing Facility Capacity Agreement (effective January 1, 2009 for a three year term with two, 2-year renewal options).
- R.12 Encourage SWALCO members and Lake County townships to enter into a Per Ton Payment Intergovernmental Agreement with SWALCO in order to be eligible to receive payment (Per Ton Payment) for their recyclables per the terms of the existing Capacity Agreement.
- R. 13 Encourage the development of general construction or demolition (C&D) debris recycling facilities as permitted by Section 22.38 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act. With



the enactment of Public Act 96-0611, general C&D debris recycling facilities can be located in Lake County, without having to obtain local siting approval in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, and instead will be regulated by applicable zoning requirements. As a result, SWALCO developed zoning guidelines for such facilities that address the location, design, operation and closure of such facilities, which are available for members to consider incorporating into their local zoning ordinances. Any proposed general C&D debris recycling facility must enter into Host Community Benefit Agreements with SWALCO and the governing body with jurisdiction over the proposed facility prior to filing a siting application or zoning application, whichever is applicable. The Host Community Benefit Agreements with SWALCO and the governing body must, at a minimum, contain provisions for: 1) a guarantee of access to capacity at the facility for general C&D material generated in Lake County, 2) environmental safeguards, and 3) payment of host fees.

- R.14 Encourage SWALCO members to adopt a C&D recycling ordinance that would require the implementation of a recycling program at new construction and/or demolition sites within their communities.
- R.15 Consider the development of a formal zero waste plan as part of the next Plan Update in 2019 and form a zero waste task force to assist with development of the zero waste plan component of the 2019 Plan Update.
- R.16 Continue to support the concept of Product Stewardship (the act of minimizing the environmental and social impacts of a product throughout all lifecycle stages and recognizing that producers have the greatest ability to minimize adverse impacts), and support Extended Producer Responsibility (a mandatory, legislative approach to product stewardship that extends the producer's responsibility to the post-consumer management of the product) legislation that will increase the reuse and recycling of products, and encourage more design for the environment and for recyclability by producers. To further this recommendation, SWALCO should become a member of the newly formed Illinois Product Stewardship Council, formed in partnership with the Product Stewardship Institute (which SWALCO is currently a member of).

#### 4.2.4 Organics Management

- OM.1 Encourage the development of programs to increase the collection and composting of residential and commercial organic material (such as landscape waste, food scrap and livestock waste) by working to implement the recommendations in the 60% Recycling Task Force Report.
- OM.2 Monitor landscape waste collection and composting costs, and determine if SWALCO needs to take any action to better control and/or reduce the costs associated with both collecting and managing the material.
- OM.3 Evaluate the infrastructure for transporting and managing food scraps generated in Lake County, and work cooperatively with the private sector to promote/encourage adequate infrastructure is in place.
- OM.4 Encourage SWALCO members to implement residential food scrap programs as part of their hauling contracts or licensing requirements. One such program that can be implemented at little or no additional cost is the "ride along for free" program where



residents are allowed to commingle food scraps with landscape waste as part of the regular landscape waste collection program offered by the hauler.

- OM.5 SWALCO should assist SWALCO members in obtaining costs estimates, as part of the procurement process for a new hauling contract or extension, for a year round three cart collection system that will provide year round collection for: refuse recyclables and organics. Members can then decide whether to expand their collection programs to include organics, year round.
- OM.6 Continue to be a member of and support the Illinois Food Scrap Coalition (of which SWALCO is a founding member). Utilize the restaurant toolkit and the “We Compost” recognition program developed by the Coalition to inform Lake County businesses and institutions about food scrap composting opportunities and how to get recognized for those efforts.
- OM.7 Add information to the SWALCO website on how to reduce food waste and not produce so much food scrap in the first place.

#### **4.2.5 Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Management**

- H.1 Continue operating a Household Chemical Waste Collection Program consisting of both public drop-off and mobile collection events operating on a year round basis.
- H.2 Renew the existing Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency when its term expires (April 2017). Explore modifying the Agreement to allow for SWALCO to assume ownership of the waste oil entering the Program.
- H.3 Encourage and support SWALCO members in the establishment of supplemental HCW programs such as waste oil collection programs (i.e. Lake Zurich and Lake Barrington Programs), and fluorescent lamp collection centers (i.e. Highland Park, Riverwoods and Third Lake Programs).
- H.4 Maintain a listing of environmental contractors and disposal programs (i.e. IEPA's laboratory waste collection program) to use as a referral for business, institutions and school districts.
- H.5 Consider offering SWALCO's assistance in conducting one-day collection events for neighboring Illinois counties as another potential revenue source.

#### **4.2.6 Landfilling**

- L.1 Maintain existing contracts and/or negotiate new contract provisions with the six SWALCO designated sanitary landfills serving Lake County (Countryside Landfill, Pheasant Run Landfill, Zion Landfill, Livingston Landfill, Lee County Landfill and Newton County Landfill) to provide for privately-owned-and-operated landfill disposal capacity for Lake County's waste requiring disposal. Such capacity guarantee should provide capacity for a portion of Lake County's waste for as long as the landfill has permitted capacity and remains an open site per the appropriate state regulations. SWALCO will consider expanding the list of landfills (located outside of Lake County) deemed to be serving Lake County if the owner of the landfill proposed for inclusion first negotiates a host agreement with SWALCO. The host agreement must provide for a capacity guarantee and payment of a host fee for each ton of Lake County waste taken to the landfill.





- L.2 Continue to implement source reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting programs to reduce dependence on landfilling.
- L.3 If one or both of the two existing landfills in Lake County (Zion Landfill and Countryside Landfill) propose an expansion onto property that is directly adjoining or within 250 feet of an existing portion of the permitted footprint of the landfill (horizontal) and/ or on top of (vertical expansion) the existing landfill's permitted airspace, and the proposed expansion meets the requirements of Recommendation A.1, the proposed expansion will be considered consistent with the Plan.
- L.4 With less than 14 years of permitted landfill capacity in Lake County, a new landfill would be considered as a local solution to managing Lake County's waste. If the proposed new landfill meets the applicable requirements of the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan (Recommendations L.5 and L.6) it will be considered consistent with the Plan.
- L.5 SWALCO and the siting authority (the unit of local government with siting jurisdiction in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act) will continue using the three guidelines that were outlined in the 1989 Plan for evaluating landfilling technology. These guidelines are: utilize proven technology; minimize emissions; and avoid large economic risks. SWALCO's and the siting authority's determination on whether the proposed facility is consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan will be based, in part, on the applicant addressing the following questions in the plan consistency (siting criterion number 8 of Section 39.2 of the Act) portion of the siting application:
- **Facility Requirements** – what types of facilities are required as part of the technology? How many facilities are needed and of what size, including both site acreage and disposal capacity (in tons per day)?
  - **Siting** - What are the facility siting requirements? Does a suitable site exist within the County?
  - **Economics** -What are the capital, operation, and maintenance costs associated with the technology? What are the probable revenues and life cycle costs? What are the estimated tipping fees per ton and how do the estimated fees compare to current tipping fees for disposal of Lake County waste?
  - **Technical Feasibility** - Is the technology proven for a portion or all of the waste generated for disposal in Lake County? Can it provide reliable long-term management of the targeted waste stream?
  - **Ability to Implement** - Can the technology be successfully engineered? What are the potential obstacles to implementation and how will these obstacles be addressed? Can it be implemented in time to serve its intended purpose?
  - **Environmental Impacts** - What are the environmental impacts of the technology on the air, water, and land of Lake County and its surrounding neighbors? Do the air, land and water pollution control technologies proposed at the facility meet the most stringent standards under applicable state of Illinois and/or federal law?
  - **Permitting** - What federal, state and/or local permits will be necessary for the facility to be developed and operated?
  - **Safety Issues** - What safety concerns for the worker and general public are associated with the facility and can they be adequately addressed?
  - **Health Risk Assessment** - What are the health risks and benefits associated with the technology?



- **Financing** – How will the facility be financed and can financing be arranged?
  - **Life Cycle Assessment** – What are the life cycle environmental impacts of the proposed disposal technology compared to the current disposal system in Lake County, using the following life cycle parameters – net annual energy consumption, sulfur oxides emissions, nitrogen oxides emissions and carbon dioxide emissions?
- L.6 Any proposed new landfill facility must meet the requirements of Recommendation A.1 (Host Community Benefit Agreements).
- L.7 Encourage existing and new landfill owners to design and implement landfill technologies to extend life expectancy, reduce long term toxicity and conserve resources when possible and environmentally appropriate.
- L.8 Encourage existing and new landfill owners to design and implement landfill gas collection and management systems that capture and utilize the maximum amount of landfill gas for energy recovery as opposed to direct flaring of some or all of the landfill gas.

#### 4.2.7 Solid Waste Transfer

- T.1 Solid waste transfer stations, if developed in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan (Recommendations T.2 through T.7), will be considered consistent with the Plan. These recommendations (T.1 through T.7) are not applicable to landscape waste transfer stations or general construction and demolition debris recycling facilities as permitted under Section 22.38 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, but are applicable to any transfer station that meets the definition of a pollution control facility under the Act.
- T.2 A transfer station site should be large enough to provide for a facility large enough to safely and efficiently manage the anticipated volume of waste, adequate buffering and screening, stormwater management, and safe traffic flow. If the site is proposed for additional functions, including but not limited to, vehicle and equipment storage, vehicle maintenance, office space, processing of recyclables, or processing of waste into a fuel it must be demonstrated that the site is large enough for all proposed functions.
- T.3 Transfer station operations - related to the unloading of refuse, recyclables and landscape waste, temporary storage of the materials on the tipping floor, and the loading of transfer trailers - must be located within a portion of the transfer station that can be completely enclosed. (This does not require the transfer station to keep its incoming and outgoing doors closed during operations unless proximity to a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulated airport requires that doors open and close with the acceptance of waste. This does prohibit the development of a three sided and/or an open top structure as a transfer station in Lake County.) Developers are strongly encouraged to incorporate: 1) material recovery at the transfer station to capture materials of value in the municipal waste prior to loading for landfill disposal, and 2) green/sustainable building principles into the design and operation of the facility and the overall site.
- T.4 Transfer station developers must include in the design and operation of the facility: 1) the transfer of recyclables, landscape waste and food scraps within 24 hours of acceptance at the facility (with the exception of waste loaded into trailers and stored inside the transfer station prior to delivery to the landfill, compost site or recycler, and





extreme weather or emergency situations that make this requirement infeasible), 2) a negative air pressure system within the enclosed portion of the transfer station and filtering of the exhaust air before it is emitted outside the facility, 3) operating hours that are no greater than 17 hours during weekdays, 8 hours during Saturdays and closed on Sundays (hours can only be extended by the siting authority due to storms, strikes or other one-time events), 4) high performance doors that will automatically open and close as vehicles enter and leave and that allow for the facility to keep its doors closed during operating hours, if so determined by the siting authority. Transfer station developers are encouraged to evaluate the processing of the solid waste into a renewable resource that could be transported to off-site markets.

T.5 SWALCO and the siting authority (the unit of local government with siting jurisdiction in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act) will continue using the three guidelines that were outlined in the 1989 Plan for evaluating transfer station technology. These guidelines are: utilize proven technology; minimize emissions; and avoid large economic risks. SWALCO's and the siting authority's determination on whether the proposed facility is consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan will be based, in part, on the applicant addressing the following questions in the plan consistency (siting criterion number 8 of Section 39.2 of the Act) portion of the siting application:

- **Facility Requirements** - What type of facilities are required as part of the technology? How many facilities are needed and of what size, including both site acreage and disposal capacity (in tons per day)?
- **Siting** - What are the facility siting requirements? Does a suitable site exist within the County?
- **Economics** - What are the capital, operation, and maintenance costs associated with the technology? What are the probable revenues and life cycle costs? What are the estimated tipping fees per ton and how do the estimated fees compare to current tipping fees for disposal of Lake County waste?
- **Technical Feasibility** - Is the technology proven for a portion or all of the waste generated for disposal in Lake County? Can it provide reliable long-term management of the targeted waste stream?
- **Ability to Implement** - Can the technology be successfully engineered? What are the potential obstacles to implementation and how will these obstacles be addressed? Can it be implemented in time to serve its intended purpose?
- **Environmental Impacts** - What are the environmental impacts of the technology on the air, water, and land of Lake County and its surrounding neighbors? Do the air, land and water pollution control technologies proposed at the facility meet the most stringent standards under applicable state of Illinois and/or federal law?
- **Permitting** - What federal, state and/or local permits will be necessary for the facility to be developed and operated?
- **Safety Issues** - What safety concerns for the worker and general public are associated with the facility and can they be adequately addressed?
- **Health Risk Assessment** - What are the health risks and benefits associated with the technology?
- **Financing** - How will the facility be financed and can financing be arranged?
- **Life Cycle Assessment** - What are the life cycle environmental impacts of the proposed transfer and disposal system compared to the current and projected disposal system in Lake County, using the following life cycle parameters – net



annual energy consumption, sulfur oxides emissions, nitrogen oxides emissions and carbon dioxide emissions?

- T.6 Any proposed transfer station facility must meet the requirements of Recommendation A.1 (Host Community Benefit Agreements).
- T.7 Any proposed transfer station facility that intends to export waste outside of Lake County must transport the waste to a SWALCO-designated landfill in accordance with Recommendation L.1.

#### 4.2.8 Alternative Technologies

- AT.1 With less than 14 years of permitted landfill capacity in Lake County, alternative technologies, which are limited to technologies that convert waste to energy through biological conversion (i.e., anaerobic digestion technologies, not including mass burn incineration or thermal or chemical conversion such as gasification), should be considered as a local and sustainable solution to managing Lake County's waste. If the proposed alternative technology facility meets the applicable requirements of the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan (Recommendations AT.2 and AT.3) and it is 500 tons per day or less in design capacity (based on 365 days per year) it will be considered consistent with the Plan.
- AT.2 SWALCO and the siting authority (the unit of local government with siting jurisdiction in accordance with Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act) will continue using the three guidelines that were outlined in the 1989 Plan for evaluating alternative technologies. These guidelines are: utilize proven technology; minimize emissions; and avoid large economic risks. SWALCO's and the siting authority's determination on whether the proposed facility is consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan will be based, in part, on the applicant addressing the following questions in the plan consistency (siting criterion number 8 of Section 39.2 of the Act) portion of the siting application:
- **Facility Requirements** – What type of facilities are required as part of the technology? How many facilities are needed and of what size, including both site acreage and disposal capacity (in tons per day)?
  - **Siting** - What are the facility siting requirements? Does a suitable site exist within the County?
  - **Economics** -What are the capital, operation, and maintenance costs associated with the technology? What are the probable revenues and life cycle costs? What are the estimated tipping fees per ton and how do the estimated fees compare to current tipping fees for the disposal of Lake County waste?
  - **Technical Feasibility** - Is the technology proven for all or a portion of the waste generated for disposal in Lake County? Can it provide reliable long-term management of the targeted waste stream?
  - **Ability to Implement** - Can the technology be successfully engineered? What are the potential obstacles to implementation and how will these obstacles be addressed? Can it be implemented in time to serve its intended purpose?
  - **Environmental Impacts** - What are the environmental impacts of the technology on the air, water, and land of Lake County and its surrounding neighbors? Do the air, land and water pollution control technologies proposed at the facility meet the most current applicable state of Illinois and/or federal regulations for new facilities



including the Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standards and anticipated regulatory changes that may be still pending final approvals?

- **Permitting** - What federal, state and/or local permits will be necessary for the facility to be developed and operated?
- **Safety Issues** - What safety concerns for the worker and general public are associated with the facility and can they be adequately addressed?
- **Health Risk Assessment** - What are the health risks and benefits associated with the technology?
- **Financing** – How will the facility be financed and can financing be arranged?
- **Life Cycle Assessment** – What are the life cycle environmental impacts of the proposed disposal technology compared to the current disposal system in Lake County, using the following life cycle parameters – net annual energy consumption, sulfur oxides emissions, nitrogen oxides emissions and carbon dioxide emissions?

AT.3 Any proposed alternative technology facility must meet the requirements of Recommendation A.1 (Host Community Benefit Agreements).

#### 4.2.9 Organization and Administration

- O.1 Continue the coordinated county wide approach to the management and disposal of all nonhazardous waste generated within Lake County, including the management of recyclable and recoverable materials. Place increased emphasis on non-residential waste, including commercial, industrial waste and construction and demolition debris.
- O.2 SWALCO should continue providing centralized management of the plan implementation process and other municipalities currently not SWALCO members should be encouraged to join SWALCO.
- O.3 SWALCO members should assume responsibility for: (i) adopting necessary waste management ordinances, (ii) providing administrative and operational funding for SWALCO as determined by SWALCO Board of Directors and (iii) using the waste management and disposal system established by SWALCO.
- O.4 The SWALCO Board of Directors shall provide for professional staff and resources necessary to undertake all programs to implement the Solid Waste Plan. As programs are altered, it may be necessary to adjust staffing levels to implement program changes.
- O.5 Maintain the designation of one or more Materials Recovery Facility(ies) (MRF) as an official component of Lake County's waste management system and encourage all members and non-members to utilize the MRF or MRFs for recoverables collected within their municipal boundaries; continue to establish and designate other components of the waste management system as appropriate.
- O.6 Obtain input from the public in the development of solid waste policies, such as from a citizens advisory group. Prior to adopting the next update to the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan establish a new citizens advisory committee (CAC) to help in the preparation of a draft plan update for review and approval by the SWALCO Board of Directors and the Lake County Board.

#### 4.2.10 Finance and Ownership

- F.1 Monitor operations of the six sanitary landfills currently under agreement with SWALCO



for the provision of a given amount of privately-owned-and-operated landfill disposal capacity, secured by contract/agreement. Retain, as a long term option, the public ownership of recycling, composting and/or final disposal facilities to meet the waste/material management needs of Lake County.

- F.2 Examine and where determined appropriate, pursue all reasonably available sources of interim and long-term funding for implementing programs and facilities recommended in the Plan Update.
- F.3 SWALCO and Lake County should monitor and apply to federal, state and private sources for grants and loans to be used for capital assistance when such funding is consistent with the goals of the Plan.
- F.4 SWALCO members and non-members should be encouraged to consider other available sources of assistance grants and funds to finance and operate local recycling projects.

#### **4.2.11 Legislative Initiatives**

- I.1 Utilize the SWALCO Legislative Committee to develop an annual Legislative Policy for approval by the Board of Directors. SWALCO's legislative efforts should be coordinated with Lake County and other entities. The Legislative Policy should be consistent with the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan as updated and amended.

#### **4.2.12 Host Community Benefit Agreements**

- A.1 Prior to filing a siting application, pursuant to Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, for a new pollution control facility or for an expansion or significant modification to an existing pollution control facility, the applicant shall first enter into Host Community Benefit Agreements with the following units of local government: 1) the governing body with jurisdiction over the proposed facility, 2) SWALCO and 3) Lake County. In addition, the applicant may enter into additional Host Community Benefit Agreements with other appropriate units of local government, as determined by the applicant. In the event the applicant represents an existing pollution control facility with existing Host Community Benefit Agreements, the applicant shall amend each existing Host Community Agreement with each respective party prior to filing the siting application with the governing body.

The new and/or amended Host Community Benefit Agreements must, at a minimum, contain provisions for: 1) a guarantee of access to capacity at the facility for Lake County's unincorporated and incorporated solid waste, 2) environmental safeguards, and 3) payment of host benefit fees.

As part of the host agreement negotiations with all applicable units of local government and prior to the approval or disapproval of the host agreements, the developer must demonstrate, using a SWALCO approved life cycle assessment model, that its proposed disposal option is superior to the current system for at least three of the four parameters (net annual energy consumption, sulfur oxides emissions, nitrogen oxides emissions and carbon dioxide emissions), one of which must be carbon dioxide emissions. The life cycle assessment results and all input data must be provided to all interested parties and presented in a public meeting hosted by the governing authority with jurisdiction for siting, and both SWALCO and Lake County representatives will be



invited to the same public meeting (the intent is to have one public meeting that all units of local government that must approve host agreements would attend jointly). The life cycle assessment results must be made available to SWALCO (and posted on SWALCO's website) and other interested parties at least 30 days prior to the public meeting in order to provide interested parties time to evaluate and comment on the results.

All reasonable and necessary costs, including but not limited to legal fees and consulting fees, associated with the development of Host Community Benefit Agreements, and the evaluation of the life cycle assessment model and data shall be paid for by the developer to the affected units of local government. The developer will be required to establish an escrow account or multiple escrow accounts that the units of local government can draw on to pay for their reasonable and necessary costs. The amount of the escrow account or accounts shall be equal to the amount of the reasonable and necessary costs and funded as necessary to cover such costs. This is consistent with the provision in Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act which authorizes units of local government to charge applicants pursuing siting approval for a pollution control facility a fee to cover the reasonable and necessary costs incurred by the unit of local government in the siting review process.



**Attachment A**  
**Citizens Advisory Committee Members,**  
**Agendas and Attendance Sheets**



# LAKE COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update

### Member's Name

### Affiliation

1. Dennis Bahr	Private Citizen
2. Larry Blacik	Private Citizen
3. Rick Bulthuis	Republic Services
4. Pat Carey	Lake County Board Member
5. Josh Connell	Lakeshore Waste Services
6. Beth Lewin Dean	Private Citizen
7. Christine Gentes	Lake County Municipal League
8. David Gorter	DK Organics
9. Mike Hey	Waste Management, Inc.
10. Drew Irvin	Lake Bluff, Village Manager
11. Alan Josephsen	Alan Josephsen Co., Inc.
12. Barbara Klipp	Incinerator Free Lake County
13. Ted Krueger	Midwest Organics
14. Robert Lenzini	MBL Recycling, Inc.
15. Jim Lewis	Advanced Disposal
16. Ann Maine	Lake County Board Member
17. Jean McCue	Round Lake Park, Trustee
18. Amy McEwan	Lake County Administrator's Office
19. Josh Molnar	Groot Industries
20. Maryanne Natarajan	Incinerator Free Lake County
21. Chris Pado	Sierra Club
22. Tim Petersen	Lakes Disposal Services
23. Steve Schweinsberg	Prairieland Disposal
24. Ed Seidman	Private Citizen
25. Marilyn Shineflug	Private Citizen
26. Dan Tichenor	Private Citizen



# **SWALCO/Lake County Citizens Advisory Committee 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update**

## **Meeting Agenda**

7 p.m., February 12, 2014  
Central Permit Facility, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Roles of major participants in the 2014 Plan Update
  - a) SWALCO
  - b) Lake County
  - c) CAC
- 3) Review of the 2009 Plan Update
  - a) Format used, tied to IEPA Plan Update Reporting Form
    - i) For 2014 Plan Update, plan to prepare Executive Summary for wider distribution to public
  - b) Overview of recommendations
  - c) Review of progress made by SWALCO members/Lake County since 2009 Plan Update/2011 60% Recycling Task Force Report
- 4) Key issues that should be addressed in the 2014 Plan Update
  - a) Update text on pollution control facility siting regarding the life cycle assessment
  - b) Additional transfer station design and operating requirements
  - c) Formally integrate 60% Recycling Task Force Report into the Update
  - d) Others?
- 5) Next meeting March 19, 2014
- 6) Public comment
- 7) Adjourn

# CAC, 2014 PLAN UPDATE

## Sign-In Sheet

### Name

### Signature

Dennis Bahr

Larry Blacik

Rick Bulthuis

Pat Carey

Josh Connell

Beth Lewin Dean

Christine Gentes

David Gorter

Mike Hey/Mike Brink

Drew Irvin

Alan Josephsen

Barbara Klipp

Ted Krueger

Robert Lenzini

Jim Lewis/Bob Pfister

Ann Maine

Jean McCue

Amy McEwan

Josh Molnar

Maryanne Natarajan

Chris Pado

Tim Petersen

Steve Schweinsberg

Ed Seidman

Marilyn Shineflug

Dan Tichenor

Laurence Blacik

Josh Connell

Mike Hey/Mike Brink

Barbara Klipp

Jim Lewis

Jean McCue

Amy McEwan

Josh Molnar

Steve Schweinsberg

Marilyn Shineflug

Dan Tichenor

DATE FEB. 12, 2014

LARRY MOUNT

Trustee - Chairman SWACCO  
RLB

# **SWALCO/Lake County Citizens Advisory Committee 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update**

## **Meeting Agenda**

7 p.m., April 16, 2014  
Central Permit Facility, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Review proposed changes to Section 3 of the Plan Update
  - a) Discuss changes and/or additions
- 3) Review proposed changes to Section 4 of the Plan Update
  - a) Discuss changes and/or addition
- 4) Proposed timeline for approving Plan Update
  - a) CAC vote at June 11 meeting
  - b) SWALCO Board vote at August 28 meeting, this will also be announced as a public meeting to accept comments from the public
  - c) Lake County Board
    - i) Public Works and Transportation Committee, September/October
    - ii) Full County Board, October/November
- 5) Public comment
- 6) Next Meeting, June 11, 2014
- 7) Adjourn

# CAC, 2014 PLAN UPDATE

## Sign-In Sheet

### Name

### Signature

Dennis Bahr

Larry Blacik

Rick Bulthuis

Pat Carey

Josh Connell

Beth Lewin Dean

Christine Gentes

David Gorter

Mike Hey/Mike Brink

Drew Irvin

Alan Josephsen

Barbara Klipp

Ted Krueger

Robert Lenzini

Jim Lewis/Bob Pfister

Ann Maine

Jean McCue

Amy McEwan

Josh Molnar

Maryanne Natarajan

Chris Pado

Tim Petersen

Steve Schweinsberg

Ed Seidman

Marilyn Shineflug

Dan Tichenor

DATE April 16, 2014

1 Lawrence J. Blacik

2 Pat Carey

1 Mike Brink

1 Barbara Klipp

6 Jim Lewis

7 Jean McCue

7 Maryanne Natarajan

Chris Pado

10 Marilyn Shineflug

11 Dan Tichenor

12 KC Doyle

# **SWALCO/Lake County Citizens Advisory Committee 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update**

## **Meeting Agenda**

7 p.m., June 11, 2014  
Central Permit Facility, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Review Section 2 of the Plan Update
- 3) Review proposed changes to Section 3 of the Plan Update
  - a) Discuss changes and/or additions
- 4) Review proposed changes to Section 4 of the Plan Update
  - a) Discuss changes and/or additions
- 5) Approval of draft Plan Update
- 6) Proposed timeline for approving Plan Update
  - a) CAC vote at June 11 meeting
  - b) SWALCO Board vote at August 28 meeting, this will also be announced as a public meeting to accept comments from the public
  - c) Lake County Board
    - i) Public Works and Transportation Committee, September/October
    - ii) Full County Board, October/November
- 7) Public comment
- 8) Determine need for another meeting or not
- 9) Adjourn

# CAC, 2014 PLAN UPDATE

## Sign-In Sheet

**Name**

**Signature**

Dennis Bahr

Larry Blacik

Rick Bulthuis

Pat Carey

Josh Connell

Beth Lewin Dean

Christine Gentes

David Gorter

Mike Hey/Mike Brink

Drew Irvin

Alan Josephsen

Barbara Klipp

Ted Krueger

Robert Lenzini

Jim Lewis/Bob Pfister

Ann Maine

Jean McCue

Amy McEwan

Josh Molnar

Maryanne Natarajan

Chris Pado

Tim Petersen

Steve Schweinsberg

Ed Seidman

Marilyn Shineflug

Dan Tichenor

DATE June 11, 2014

Larry Blacik

Pat Carey

Mike Hey/Mike Brink

Barbara Klipp

Jim Lewis

Ann Maine

Jean McCue

Amy McEwan

Josh Molnar

Maryanne Natarajan

Chris Pado

Tim Petersen

Steve Schweinsberg

Ed Seidman

Dan Tichenor



**Attachment B**  
**Public Hearing Transcript**



1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)  
2 ) SS:  
3 COUNTY OF L A K E )  
4

5 SWALCO Board of Directors Meeting  
6

7 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
8 IN RE: 2014 Solid Waste  
9 Management Plan Update  
10 for Lake County  
11

12 August 28, 2014  
13 Hainesville Village Hall  
14 100 N. Hainesville Road  
15 Hainesville, IL 60030  
16 7:00 p.m.  
17  
18  
19  
20

21 Reported by: Susan L. Bruesch, CSR, Notary Public  
22 L&L Reporting Service, Inc.  
23 9 North County Street  
24 Waukegan, IL 60085  
(847) 623-7580

A P P E A R A N C E S:

LAW OFFICE OF LARRY M. CLARK  
700 N. Lake Street, Suite 200  
Mundelein, IL 60060  
847-949-9396  
BY: Mr. Larry Clark

Attorney for SWALCO.

SWALCO  
1311 N. Estes Street  
Gurnee, IL 60031  
847-336-9340  
630-621-0736  
wwills@swalco.org  
BY: MR. WALTER S. WILLIS

Appeared on behalf of SWALCO.

ALSO PRESENT:

Glenn Ryback - Vice Chairman

Amy Bartemio - Office manager

1                   VICE CHAIRMAN RYBACK: I'm not  
2                   calling the meeting to order but I'm calling a  
3                   public hearing for the update for the Lake  
4                   County Solid Waste Management plan for 2014 and  
5                   so at this time the floor is open.

6                   Do you want to make a  
7                   presentation first and then we'll take input  
8                   from board members and from the public?

9                   MR. WILLIS: Good afternoon  
10                  everyone. We'll go on with our public hearing  
11                  before our normal meeting and what I want to do  
12                  I was told a five-minute presentation. I  
13                  actually had a little longer one but we'll see  
14                  if I can cut it down.

15                  (Whereupon a discussion was had off  
16                  the record.)

17                  MR. WILLIS: What I want to do is  
18                  show a presentation and then I'll take  
19                  questions and comments from the board members  
20                  and the public. I'm glad to see we have some  
21                  public here tonight and so I'm going to get  
22                  going here. I'll be talking quickly about the  
23                  planning process in Illinois, the role of the  
24                  Citizens Advisory Committee that helped prepare

1       this document and an overview of the main  
2       highlights of the plan.

3                       There's an Illinois law that  
4       requires us to develop an integrated Waste  
5       Management plan and by that, a waste reduction  
6       and final disposal and we were the very first  
7       county and we're very proud of it and every  
8       time we get a chance to say that, we do, to  
9       adopt the plan in Illinois in 1989. Per that  
10      law we have to update it every five years.

11                      Obviously the plan can get a  
12      little stale if you don't go back and look at  
13      what we've done and what the things we want to  
14      improve upon and then we are uniquely delegated  
15      in that law, the agencies to prepare the solid  
16      Waste Management but ultimately the Lake County  
17      Board wants to adopt it for it to become  
18      effective for a five-year update. So we have  
19      the role of preparing, they adopt and then we  
20      all together implement it.

21                      If you remember last fall we  
22      did a 26-person advisory committee. It was  
23      basically the same group of people that helped  
24      us prepare the 60 percent recycling plan and we

1        tried to get a good cross-section of people,  
2        private citizens that had been working with us  
3        for -- some of them for over a decade on our  
4        waste industry, the recycling industry, the  
5        environmental groups.

6                        We met three times. On  
7        June 11 the Advisory Committee did vote to  
8        approve the draft document and move it on for  
9        your consideration.

10                      That's the plan. It's got four  
11        sections. I'm going to go over those real  
12        quickly. Section 1 just talks about the scope  
13        of the plan. We do have municipalities in Lake  
14        County that aren't members of SWALCO so  
15        regardless of whether you are a member of  
16        SWALCO or not, the Lake County plan is  
17        applicable to you as a municipality.

18                      So then the important part of  
19        the plan it does give us control over Lake  
20        County's destiny on final disposal facilities  
21        that can be proposed in Lake County so it's a  
22        very important document in that regard.  
23        Whenever an applicant brings forth a proposed  
24        facility, they have to demonstrate that they're



1 consistent with our plan.

2 Here are some highlights. Over  
3 a million tons of waste, slash, materials, not  
4 all these, but about 9.63 pounds per person per  
5 day are generated in Lake County. Now, how is  
6 that managed after it's generated? As you can  
7 see from the pie chart 37 and a half percent is  
8 recycled, 10.6 is composted which gives us  
9 about a 38 percent recycling rate and the  
10 remainder about 574,000 tons is landfill.

11 As you recall from our  
12 60 percent document there's two ways to  
13 continue our process. We continue to collect  
14 numbers and estimate our recycling rate which  
15 is a difficult exercise as Pete can attest to,  
16 and another way to do it is look at how much  
17 you're disposing and if we're disposing less,  
18 that means we must be doing something positive  
19 as far as source reduction, recuse, recycling,  
20 composting.

21 The nice things about that is  
22 it's very hard to quantify source reduction and  
23 reuse but by looking at pounds per capita you  
24 can actually take credit for that activity and

1     you can see those other goals that we set in  
2     the 60 percent document and we're trying to go  
3     from the residential lines, I'm looking at the  
4     1.85 as the waste in 2010, in 2015 our goal is  
5     1.6 and 2020 1.35, drive those numbers down and  
6     so far ten of our members have met the 2015  
7     goal and three have met the 2020 goal already  
8     so we are making progress. This tells you a  
9     little bit about our landfill capacity.

10                     They both have different  
11     remaining lives. You can see the county side  
12     landfill is now under ten years. It's 8.2  
13     years and the ADS or advanced disposal facility  
14     in Zion including its recent expansion in 2012  
15     I believe that has about 18.4 years' capacity  
16     so if we just combine the two, you've got about  
17     4.8 million tons together and they take in  
18     about a million tons so simple math on that is  
19     about 14 years of capacity in Lake County  
20     which for an urban county we're in pretty good  
21     shape.

22                     That's a hard slide to see but  
23     it's in the plan update. I like this slide  
24     because it shows we've a got lot of

1 infrastructure in this county. We have  
2 obviously two landfills, recycling facilities,  
3 recycling municipal waste facilities, transfer  
4 stations proposed and sited and permitted in  
5 Highland Park, quite a few landscape waste  
6 management facilities. We have compost  
7 facilities in this county, we've got compost  
8 for food scrap so we've got a lot going on in  
9 Lake County and basically enough which really  
10 helps reduce our costs because 70 to 75 percent  
11 of cost of managing waste compost and  
12 recyclables is in the truck and the traffic and  
13 moving that material so if we keep our  
14 solutions close, we're going to reduce our  
15 trucking costs.

16 Section 3 -- Section 2 is  
17 really just a description of our metrics, our  
18 numbers, how much we generate, how we manage.

19 Section 3 is a look back on the  
20 2009 plan update so we list a little discussion  
21 about what did we do with that recommendation,  
22 did we implement it, are we still working on  
23 it. So that's what Section 3 is about and it  
24 gives as us chance to toot our horn a little

1 bit which I think we need to do.

2 And if you look at what's been  
3 going on even before the 60 percent task force  
4 report but afterwards, a lot of activity.  
5 We've got 27 municipalities have volume-based  
6 options in their contracts. You can go to any  
7 other county in this state and nobody's close  
8 to us.

9 40 have the large recycling  
10 carts, small bins and 19 actually have an  
11 option to upgrade your cart to a larger cart.  
12 Most all the contracts I'm helping you with now  
13 we're going to get that provision in your  
14 contracts so people want to recycle more and 65  
15 isn't big enough, they can get a 95. We've got  
16 seven that have or will have commercial  
17 franchises. We've got eight with mandatory  
18 recycling ordinances, we've got eight  
19 municipalities that have multi-family residents  
20 in their residential franchise contracts and  
21 typically every time you bring them into your  
22 franchise they are required to have recycling  
23 service.

24 And then, you know, I think the

1 strength of SWALCO is how much involvement the  
2 members have. You guys through your local  
3 staff, your public works, et cetera, help  
4 participate and 32 of you are either doing  
5 electronics, clothing and textile program,  
6 pharmaceuticals. Several of you host our  
7 chemical waste advance and you work with us on  
8 those so it's a lot of effort being done  
9 throughout Lake County. We're only as good as  
10 you guys.

11 So this is again in the  
12 document, but we're keeping track of you guys  
13 so we're kind of using that as a way to not  
14 even just keep track but also create a little  
15 computation. And look at what your neighbors  
16 are doing and say maybe we can consider doing  
17 something like that as well.

18 We have a more detailed  
19 breakdown of most of all the recommendations in  
20 the 60 percent report on our website for every  
21 single municipality so every once in a while  
22 you might want to go on there and say you don't  
23 have it updated right. Actually Pat corrected  
24 me on one of the tables himself because in

1 Gurnee should have an X in the franchise box.

2 We've got the largest most  
3 successful program in the fleet. We do about  
4 30 collections per year. We collect about  
5 600,000 pounds. We've got a new program with  
6 the clothing and textile and a lot of you were  
7 jumping onto that and that's great.

8 We entered into an innovative  
9 H2S monitoring program with the Countryside  
10 Landfill. That was a pretty big deal and the  
11 very first garbage transfer station was sited  
12 in Round Lake Park and it included that five  
13 cycle assessment that we feel is important to  
14 make sure that when you bring technology into  
15 Lake County you want it to be better than our  
16 current status grow options so we want to  
17 improve upon the recycling analysis.

18 Section 4 we've got a lot of  
19 different categories, 75 recommendations so  
20 that's what keeps us busy. And we've created  
21 new recommendations for source reduction and  
22 reuse and organics management. Before they  
23 were rolled into kind of the recyclables but we  
24 recognize those are specific and unique,



1 different that we need to highlight so those  
2 are the main categories.

3 "Recycle First, Trash Last."

4 You remember we had a big campaign and we are  
5 formally bringing that campaign into our plan  
6 and recognizing that as kind of our -- that's  
7 our slogan, that's our educational effort, the  
8 "Recycle First, Trash Last."

9 Another big thing we're doing  
10 you remember when we did the 60 percent plan.  
11 It kind of stands by itself right now. We're  
12 going to formally bring it into the solid Waste  
13 Management plan. That way we have an  
14 implication as far as upping the ante as to the  
15 importance of that document and what we've done  
16 though is not in the document that you  
17 currently have now but it's on our website.

18 But the underlying text is some  
19 text we've added based on feedback from Lake  
20 County and also from the executive committee  
21 and basically we're saying, hey, it's up to  
22 each entity to decide what recommendations  
23 they're going to implement.

24 We're going to help you with

1       that but it's going to be your choice and the  
2       60 percent goal is much greater than what the  
3       state goal is in Illinois. And it's something  
4       we're going after in a voluntary fashion but  
5       you do remember that we had some mandates in  
6       the 60 percent documents and that's something  
7       each of you is going to have to confront or  
8       deal with in early 2016 when we look back on  
9       the 2015 numbers.

10                   Through the highlights I think  
11       most of the effort was with the transfer  
12       station recommendations. What we're doing with  
13       our plan is we're basically telling anybody  
14       that wants to develop a transfer station in  
15       Lake County since you had to be consistent with  
16       our plan we have certain things we want that  
17       facility to have in its design and its  
18       operation and you've got to have it in there.

19                   Basically if we put it in our  
20       plan and you come to us and you don't, you  
21       know, have evidence in your application that  
22       you've addressed that, that could be a grounds  
23       for denial of the application.

24                   So we're saying, hey, we

1 weren't five years ago, it was on our radar but  
2 not as strongly as it is now, so we're saying  
3 when you design that facility we know you've  
4 got separate areas for the recyclables, trash  
5 compost and green waste, but now the food  
6 scrap.

7                   You've got to have a negative  
8 air freshener built so if I were to stand in  
9 front of that facility and blow out a match,  
10 the smoke should go in the building. That  
11 means you're drawing the air in the building.  
12 That theoretically is keeping the odor in the  
13 facility, but when you exhaust that air out the  
14 top or the side, you're going to have to filter  
15 it. You want to try to deal with the odor and  
16 the dust before you kick it out back in the  
17 environment.

18                   You've got to add the high  
19 speed doors. One of the things we put in the  
20 Round Lake Park, that Round Lake Park site  
21 condition in the early morning from 4 a.m. to  
22 8 a.m. the doors are going to be closed when  
23 the truck comes to go there. The door is going  
24 to go up fast and close so you have to equip

1     your facility with those high speed doors.  
2     There's a lot -- there's great technology for  
3     that now. It's not a burden to them. Most of  
4     the guys are doing it voluntary anyway, the  
5     high speed doors.

6                     The other one we're adding is  
7     we're encouraging, it's not a requirement but  
8     we're encouraging you to design for maybe doing  
9     some recovery recycling at the facility from  
10    the mixed waste and so you incorporate green  
11    building principles in the facility.

12                    I do want to point out there  
13    was one area of disagreement in this advisory  
14    committee and three members voted against this  
15    recommendation. There is a new recommendation.  
16    Typically when you build a transfer station you  
17    build it to export the garbage out of the  
18    county and that's the plan in Round Lake Park.  
19    They're most likely going to transport it to  
20    Rockford.

21                    What we're saying now is if you  
22    do propose a facility, then any land -- the  
23    landfill you ultimately take our waste to has  
24    to be a facility that is a SWALCO designated

1 landfill and we have six right now. We have  
2 agreements with six landfills that give us  
3 capacity, give us the ability to do  
4 environmental audits of those facilities to  
5 make sure we're taking it to a safe landfill  
6 and also gives the ability to send money from  
7 those agreements.

8                   Once we export the garbage out  
9 of our county we know longer get the local fee  
10 so what we're trying to do is make sure that if  
11 you're going to export to a landfill, make sure  
12 that facility has an agreement with SWALCO.  
13 Some of the members felt the big disagreement  
14 there was the Round Lake Park group facility  
15 does not have that requirement because we  
16 didn't have it in our plan at the time so we've  
17 created what some perceive as an uneven playing  
18 ground, but at the same time if you learn from  
19 the past and you don't make changes, how are  
20 you ever going to move forward.

21                   You know, once we learn about  
22 something, we have to make the change or you  
23 don't have to, but we have to strongly consider  
24 making a change as you move forward with new

1 facilities. I have no idea how many stations  
2 will end up being in Lake County but most  
3 likely more than one.

4 There's otherwise no other  
5 changes in the final disposal. The only thing  
6 is a new landfill or expanded landfill. I  
7 don't ever expect a new landfill in Lake  
8 County. Transfer stations and an aerobic  
9 digesters for organic waste. No mass burn, no  
10 gasification so we're not going to propose any  
11 changes there.

12 I'll turn it over for public  
13 comment and questions. I'll try to go fast.

14 Tracy?

15 MS. MCGRATH: Can you explain what  
16 gasification is because I got an email.

17 VICE CHAIRMAN RYBACK: When  
18 somebody asks a question have them say their  
19 name first.

20 MS. MCGRATH: Tracy McGrath,  
21 Lindenhurst. Can you explain what gasification  
22 is, please?

23 MR. WILLIS: Yeah. The mass  
24 burning incinerator it's much like burning

1 garbage only with pollution control on it.  
2 You're going to see flame and it's going to  
3 actually incinerate the material. When you  
4 gasify, you do it in a lack of oxygen so almost  
5 like making charcoal, you're taking something  
6 and getting the caloric value without actually  
7 lighting it on fire and what it creates is a  
8 synthetic gas or syngas and that syngas is  
9 basically like natural gas so that becomes the  
10 energy. You can either catalyze that, make a  
11 fuel or you can burn it in a generator like we  
12 have in the landfill and wield that to the  
13 electrical grid.

14 So many in the gasification  
15 realm will argue that it's a cleaner and better  
16 way to manage a mass burn so there's a  
17 distinction there. So it's the lack of oxygen  
18 is the big difference and the fact that you  
19 wouldn't see a flame.

20 MS. MCGRATH: Why is that something  
21 we wouldn't want to consider allowed in Lake  
22 County?

23 MR. WILLIS: In 2009 we had quite a  
24 debate about that and the Lake County Board --



1 we as SWALCO recommended that we consider that  
2 alternative but when it got to the Lake County  
3 Board the Incinerator Free Lake County  
4 Organization got formed and articulated their  
5 viewpoint and basically the county board  
6 decided that they didn't want to go down that  
7 road and SWALCO's got a long history of looking  
8 into incineration back in the late 80s that  
9 kind of got kicked out as well, but we opened  
10 the door to the life cycle analysis concept.

11 If you go to Europe they only  
12 landfill about -- the eight top countries only  
13 landfill about two percent of their waste.  
14 They recycle about 50 and mass burn or waste  
15 energy the other component and they feel that's  
16 a good way to go.

17 Getting the energy from that  
18 waste instead of waiting to put it in the  
19 landfill -- and that math you do ultimately get  
20 some energy when you put it in the landfill but  
21 not as efficient as if you were to gasify it.

22 MS. MCGRATH: Okay.

23 MR. WILLIS: Touchy issue.

24 Anybody else from the SWALCO

1 board?

2 MR. STREET: Kent Street with the  
3 village of Deerfield.

4 The proposed amendment to  
5 include giving really the members the  
6 discretion on how to implement and what tools  
7 they should use I think is a really healthy  
8 addition to this plan. I know it wasn't part  
9 of the citizen advisory committee  
10 recommendation but I think if you look at the  
11 type of diversity in our communities how we  
12 implement and achieve the 60 percent needs to  
13 be different and we each need to address that  
14 in different ways so for communities who don't  
15 have any commercial development having a  
16 commercial isn't inappropriate.

17 So I think that's a really  
18 healthy addition and I think it just continues  
19 this agency's tradition of recognizing  
20 diversity in the county and allowing each  
21 community to make its own decisions, take  
22 responsibility for its own waste and really  
23 move this thing forward.

24

1 MR. WILLIS: I agree.

2 Anyone else?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. WILLIS: Okay. Members of the  
5 public, you guys want to make some comments?  
6 Give your name and where you live.

7 MS. GOLDBERG: My name is Abby  
8 Goldberg and I live in Grayslake. So I'm just  
9 going to read what I wrote.

10 Thank you so much for allowing  
11 me to comment. Each Lake County resident  
12 produces 9.6 pounds of trash per day. That is  
13 a crazy number. I am glad your new plan wants  
14 to increase composing. I think it's great that  
15 SWALCO works to keep electronics, textiles,  
16 shoes and household chemicals out of our  
17 landfills, but I think we can do a much better  
18 job in Lake County.

19 I just wish the advisory group,  
20 the Lake County Board and SWALCO would look  
21 into teaching more people and businesses about  
22 reducing our daily garbage in general. I'm  
23 having a hard time with the "Recycle First"  
24 campaign. I was taught in school three Rs,

1       reduce first, reuse and then recycle as the  
2       last option.

3                       Some people think that we  
4       should add refuse to the list and make it four  
5       Rs. That would be an awesome campaign. I've  
6       been told that would be hard because people  
7       just aren't ready for that, but I do know that  
8       zero waste would catch on. I've been reading  
9       that zero waste restaurants in grocery stores  
10      are popping up. There are all sorts of blogs  
11      about zero waste homes.

12                     I think that people in Lake  
13      County are smart and would be open to learning  
14      about this. Logan County, Ohio adopted a zero  
15      waste philosophy in 2007 and at the top of the  
16      list on what they focus on is getting the  
17      residents to reduce the use of virgin  
18      materials. They made a county-wide resolution  
19      to do this. Lake County could make the same  
20      resolution.

21                     We need to teach people that  
22      just because something can be recycled like the  
23      plastic water bottle, laundry detergent bottle  
24      or yogurt container doesn't mean that it's okay

1 to buy and use. It just makes people feel less  
2 guilty about using these things. I get the  
3 feeling that it makes us use even more.

4 Recycling does not equal  
5 reducing. Even if items are composted and  
6 recycled, we are still making garbage and  
7 that's what we need to do something about. And  
8 most of those items are often downcycled.  
9 People are not aware of this and need to be  
10 educated.

11 At my house we have not gotten  
12 a bigger recycle bin because we're trying very  
13 hard to reduce what goes into either bin. If  
14 we are going to make recycling a Band-Aid to  
15 our trash numbers and continue to say that if  
16 we just recycled more, then we need to get  
17 people to look forward and businesses to give  
18 customers items made from a hundred percent  
19 recycled content.

20 Fast food restaurants that give  
21 out plastic cups in Lake County should be  
22 required to use a hundred percent recycled  
23 plastic, this way we are then working towards a  
24 closed loop system. Also, and more importantly

1       to me, why don't we demand that our Lake County  
2       businesses not give us Styrofoam to-go  
3       containers, cups and plastic bags. These  
4       things are definitely not easily recycled, have  
5       no business in our landfill and should be the  
6       first to go.

7                       Have you seen a landfill on a  
8       windy day? It's been done in other communities  
9       so it's not new. Nearly a hundred cities,  
10      towns and counties have banned Styrofoam. More  
11      have even banned plastic bags. Two here in  
12      Illinois, Evanston and Chicago. Why can't Lake  
13      County be a leader, set an example and make a  
14      statement for zero waste, no plastic bags or  
15      Styrofoam?

16                     Thank you.

17                     MR. WILLIS: Thank you.

18                     Did you have any questions you  
19      want me to address?

20                     MS. GOLDBERG: I don't have  
21      questions.

22                     MR. WILLIS: We appreciate your  
23      dedication.

24                     Anyone else?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. WILLIS: If not, we can close  
3 the public hearing and move on to our business  
4 and then one of our items is to vote on the  
5 plan to move it on to Pat Carey and the Lake  
6 County Board.

7 I think we're done. Thank you.

8 VICE CHAIRMAN RYBACK: If there's  
9 no other questions or comments, I will close  
10 the public hearing.

11 (Which were all the proceedings  
12 had in the above-entitled  
13 matter.)

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I, SUSAN L. BRUESCH, a notary public  
within and for the County of Lake and State of Illinois,  
do hereby certify that I am a Certified Shorthand  
Reporter doing business in the County of Lake and State  
of Illinois; that I reported the foregoing proceedings  
by means of machine shorthand and that the foregoing is  
a true and correct transcript of my shorthand notes  
taken to the best of my ability as aforesaid.

I further certify that the reading and signing of said proceedings was waived by the witness and witness' counsel.

I further certify that the taking of these proceedings was pursuant to notice and that there were present at the taking of these proceedings counsel on behalf of the plaintiff and counsel on behalf of the defendant.

I further certify that I am not counsel for, nor in any way related to any of the parties to this suit, nor am I in any way interested in the outcome thereof.

1                   In testimony whereof I have hereunto set  
2                   my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 10th day of  
3                   September, 2014, A.D.

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9                   \_\_\_\_\_  
10                  SUSAN L. BRUESCH, CSR  
11                  Notary Public, Lake County, IL  
12                  CSR License No. 084-003663  
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**Attachment C**  
**Lake County Board Resolution**  
**Adopting the 2014 Plan Update**





# Lake County Illinois

## Certified Copy

resolution: 14-0951

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**File Number: 14-0951**

Resolution adopting the 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update for Lake County, Illinois, as approved and recommended by the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO).

### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, in 1988, the Lake County Board delegated the Lake County Joint Action Solid Waste Planning Agency with the responsibility of preparing a comprehensive waste management plan for the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan ("Plan") prepared by the Joint Planning Agency was adopted by the Lake County Board in September 1989; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (415 ILCS 12/1 et seq) the Plan is to be updated every five years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) is now charged with the responsibility of preparing updates to the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, SWALCO has developed and approved updates as required, with said updates reviewed and adopted by the Lake County Board in 1994, 1999, 2004, and 2009; and

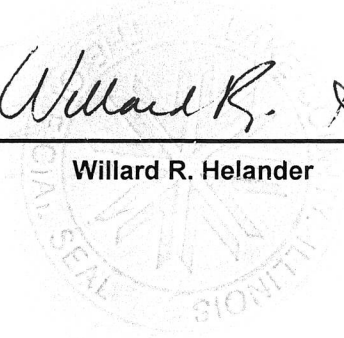
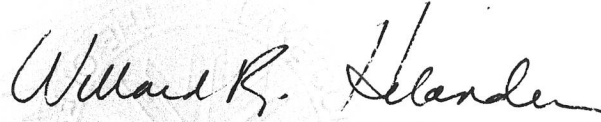
**WHEREAS**, SWALCO has forwarded the 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update for consideration and adoption by the County Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by this County Board of Lake County, Illinois, that the proposed 2014 Solid Waste Management Plan Update for Lake County, IL, attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby adopted.

**DATED** at Waukegan, Illinois, on this 14 day of October, A.D., 2014.

I, Willard R. Helander, certify that this is a true copy of resolution No. 14-0951, passed by the Lake County Board on 10/14/2014.

Attest:

Willard R. Helander

OCT 21 2014

Date Certified

**Attachment D**  
**60% Recycling Task Force Report**





SOLID WASTE AGENCY OF LAKE COUNTY, IL

# Executive Summary

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The 60% Recycling Task Force was appointed by the Lake County Board and SWALCO Board of Directors in June 2010. The Task Force was comprised of 27 members representing a wide range of stakeholders. The Task Force held 12 meetings beginning in June 2010 and ending in October 2011, which resulted in the development of 36 recommendations that were approved by the Task Force at its final meeting in October 2011. The recommendations range from enhancing existing programs to mandatory programs if voluntary programs do not reach the diversion targets in the Task Force Report.

The 36 recommendations are grouped into three sectors: 1) residential (20 recommendations), 2) commercial (14 recommendations) and 3) construction and demolition (C&D) debris (2 recommendations). During the planning process the Task Force also agreed that while tracking the waste/material diverted from final disposal (the recycling rate) was important, the primary metric for judging the success of Lake County's diversion programs should be the pounds per capita per day (PCD) of waste disposed or the disposal rate. In 2010, the average pounds per day of waste disposed of by each resident in Lake County was 4.8 pounds. The goals set by the Task Force are to reduce this to 4.12 PCD in 2015 and 3.48 PCD in 2020, or in effect reduce the waste disposed to 40% of what is generated.

One of the primary barriers to reaching the disposal goal is the need to change the mindset of people from "waste management" to "material or resource management". Once people have a better understanding of the importance and benefits of recycling and composting they will likely participate more effectively if provided convenient programs. This need for education was discussed at length by the Task Force and led to the formation of an Education Subcommittee which helped develop the education and public outreach strategy contained in Section 4 of the Report. A second barrier is having a plan of action for achieving a 60% diversion of material/waste from final disposal, which has been addressed by this Report. Now the focus will shift to the implementation of the recommendations which will take a concerted effort by residents, businesses, the waste management and recycling/composting industry, and units of local government in Lake County.

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SOLID WASTE AGENCY OF LAKE COUNTY, IL

## 60% RECYCLING TASK FORCE REPORT (FINAL) December 15, 2011

# SECTION 1

## INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

Lake County has been a leader in proactively planning for and managing the materials and waste generated by its residents, businesses and institutions evidenced by the fact that Lake County adopted the first solid waste management plan in Illinois in 1989 and subsequently adopted the first 20 year update to its plan in 2009 (under Illinois law, county-wide plans must be reviewed and updated every five years). With the formation of the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) in 1991, municipal and county governments joined together to provide a countywide approach to managing Lake County's materials and waste. This cooperative approach has led to significant progress being made in diverting materials from the final disposal into more productive uses, with Lake County achieving a 39% recycling rate in 2010. But this is not enough, Lake County must continue to expand its material diversion programs and minimize its reliance on final disposal.

Many communities across the United States are developing plans that target much higher diversion goals, realizing that more can be done to recover the valuable materials in our material/waste stream, to foster job creation, and reduce environmental impacts. Some communities even go as far as to set goals of "zero waste" wherein all "wastes" are viewed as potential resources that have higher and better uses such as being reused or re-incorporated into the economic mainstream as commodities as opposed to wastes. SWALCO and Lake County are committed to the philosophy of zero waste, but recognize that significant barriers still exist to achieving higher diversion goals. A primary barrier is changing the mindset of people from "waste management" to "material management" or "resource management". In this report you will note that the term "material" is often used in place of or along with the term "waste". Another primary barrier is the need for an articulated vision or plan which draws on the involvement and commitment of all the key stakeholders, including waste generators, units of local government and the private material/waste management industry. The goal of this Task Force Report is to begin the process of reducing and ultimately eliminating these two barriers.

As noted earlier, SWALCO and Lake County recently prepared and adopted, respectively, the 2009 Solid Waste Management Plan for Lake County, Illinois. The Plan Update contains numerous recommendations, including Recycling Recommendation R.3 which reads as follows:

Convene a task force by July 1, 2010 to investigate, evaluate and develop recommendations on how SWALCO and Lake County can realistically achieve a 60% recycling rate by 2020. The task force members shall include members of the Citizens Advisory Committee and other members selected and approved by both SWALCO and Lake County. The Task Force shall complete its investigation, and prepare and approve a final report by March 1, 2011. SWALCO will be responsible for coordinating the meetings and preparing the final report.

This recommendation has been addressed although the deadline for approving the final report was not met due to the complexity of the issue and the need to take the time to let the planning process work.

### 1.2 ORGANIZATION OF THE TASK FORCE REPORT

The remainder of this Task Force Report is organized as follows:

- Section 2—Planning Approach
- Section 3—Task Force Recommendations
- Section 4—Education and Public Outreach Strategy
- Section 5—Implementation of the Task Force Report

There are three attachments to this Report:

1. Attachment A lists the members of the Task Force.
2. Attachment B provides the minutes for the 12 meetings held by the Task Force.
3. Attachment C contains a PowerPoint developed by the Education Subcommittee summarizing its deliberations.

## SECTION 2

# PLANNING APPROACH

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### 2.1 THREE SECTOR APPROACH

The three primary material/waste generation sectors tracked by SWALCO through its data collection efforts are:

- Residential (typically single family housing up to 4 unit multi-family);
- Commercial (includes all non-hazardous and non-special waste from typical commercial, industrial and institutional sources, and multi-family housing larger than 4 units); and
- Construction & Demolition Debris (material and waste placed in large roll-off containers, not including compactors which are part of commercial sector material/waste).

SWALCO has excellent sources of data for its residential sector due to the franchises held by most of SWALCO's municipal members, which require that the haulers provide accurate data on waste, recyclables and landscape waste collected in a given town. SWALCO and Lake County also license companies in Lake County that provide material/waste collection services and as part of the licensing requirements these companies must provide SWALCO with data on the waste and recyclables collected from the three sectors listed above. This data is relied upon to estimate the commercial and C&D debris sectors waste and recycling rates, but admittedly, this data source is not as accurate as the residential data collected from the municipal franchises.

It is also quite common for companies involved in material/waste collection to organize their businesses along the same three sectors. The collection of residential waste under franchises is much different than collecting waste from non-franchised commercial businesses or offering roll-off services for new construction, renovations, and demolitions. As a result, business lines are typically set up along these three sectors. Many companies specialize in roll-off services exclusively, with Lake County having approximately 41 companies offering roll-off services and 7 companies offering material/waste collection services to the residential and commercial sectors.

Given that SWALCO's data and the business lines of material/waste collection companies are aligned with these three sectors it seemed appropriate to split the planning process along these same three sectors. You will note that in Section 3 of this report that the Task Force developed separate recommendations for each of these sectors, with the goal of achieving a 60% diversion rate in each sector.

### 2.2 RECYCLING GOALS VS DISPOSAL GOALS

The Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act requires counties to design programs to recycle 25% of the waste generated, which is considered a goal and not a requirement. Unlike other states that have penalties associated with not achieving a certain recycling rate (typically much higher than Illinois'), Illinois only requests that counties compile their data and report it to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency on an annual basis. This data collection effort varies from county to county; much like the computation of recycling rates vary from state to state. Even the term "recycling" can be misunderstood. Does it include composting? Source reduction? Reuse? The end result is that recycling rates have become less meaningful as an accurate metric of a program's success, and for comparison purposes.

This has lead many countries in Europe and most recently the State of New York to use a different benchmark for recycling/diversion programs - the amount of waste disposed. Instead of going through the time-consuming and difficult process of tracking all the recycling, composting, reuse, and source reduction (which is not easily tracked), the focus is on reducing the amount of waste disposed and setting goals based on disposal rates, which are far easier to track from a data gathering and accuracy standpoint than material diversion. For example, New York has set a goal of reducing its pounds per person per day disposed from 4.1 pounds in 2008 to 0.6 pounds by 2030. Using the disposal metric also allows for taking credit for reuse and source reduction activities which are nearly impossible to track and take credit for under current recycling data collection efforts.

During the planning process the Task Force decided that while SWALCO should continue to make its best effort to track recycling rates (which for Lake County includes recycling and composting), the ultimate measure of the County's success should be reducing the amount of material/waste collected for final disposal. Section 2.3 contains a more detailed explanation of the data used to calculate the disposal goals for Lake County.



## 2.3 RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL GOALS

As discussed earlier, SWALCO collects recycling and disposal data from several different sources. Recycling data is collected from haulers, composting sites, recycling facilities, scrap yards and other known entities involved in recycling. Disposal and recycling data is collected from haulers in accordance with the Lake County Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance on a countywide basis. More specific data on residential collection programs, including data on the amount of municipal waste, recyclables and landscape waste collected, is obtained from the haulers in accordance with franchise contracts maintained by most SWALCO members. Finally, the two in-county landfills (Zion Landfill and Countryside Landfill) provide SWALCO with annual estimates of the amount of waste disposed from Lake County and also out-of-county sources.

Combining this data and using it for useful metrics is a fairly complicated process. For this report the hauler data reported for residential franchises was used to develop the residential disposal goals. The landfill reported data was used (the data reported in accordance with the Lake County ordinance was used as a check on the landfill related data) to develop the commercial/C&D debris (combined) disposal goals. Table 1 shows the disposal data from these three sources for 2010, which is the base year for the disposal goals. Table 2 contains the disposal goals for 2015 and 2020 in pounds per capita per day (pcd) for the residential, and commercial/C&D debris sectors. These goals are quite relevant because if they aren't met by the individual members for residential disposal, and countywide for the commercial/C&D debris disposal, the mandatory recommendations in Section 3 of this Report must then be implemented.

<b>Table 1. SWALCO Waste Disposal Data for 2010</b>		
<b><u>Data Source</u></b>	<b><u>2010 Tons</u></b>	<b><u>2010 pcd</u></b>
<b>A. Hauler Reported per County Ordinance</b>		
1. Residential Waste Disposed	218,507	
2. Commercial Waste Disposed	206,498	
3. C&D Debris Disposed	152,066	
Total	577,071	4.49
<b>B. Hauler Reported per Residential Franchise Contracts</b>		
1. Residential (for SWALCO franchise towns only)	158,457	1.85
<b>C. Landfill Reported (all sectors combined)</b>		
1. WMI Countryside Landfill	314,559	
2. Veolia Zion Landfill	220,352	
3. Exported to Out of County Landfills	77,810	
Total	612,720	4.77
<b>Notes:</b>		
1. pcd means pounds per capita per day.		
2. 2010 Census data (703,462 Lake County population) was used to compute pcd for data sources A and C.		
3. Population used to calculate pcd for data source B was 468,681 which only includes the population estimated to be served by SWALCO members with residential franchises.		

As discussed earlier, the Task Force decided that instead of tracking the diversion goal of 60% that the County should instead focus on tracking and achieving a disposal goal of 40% of the material/waste generated. The following paragraphs describe the process used to develop the 40% disposal goals in Table 2.

**Table 2. Disposal Goals for 2015 and 2020**

<u>Disposal Sector</u>	<u>2010 Base Year (PCD)</u>	<u>2015 Goal (PCD)</u>	<u>2020 Goal (PCD)</u>
Residential	1.85	1.60	1.35
Commercial/C&D Debris	<u>2.92</u>	<u>2.52</u>	<u>2.13</u>
Total	4.77	4.12	3.48

The goals developed for residential disposal and commercial/C&D debris in Table 2 are based on the overall residential/commercial/C&D debris rate of 4.77 pcd (using the landfill reported data, Source C from Table 1) and the residential rate of 1.85 pcd (using the franchise reported data, Source B from Table 1). Subtracting out the residential rate (1.85 pcd) from the overall rate (4.77 pcd) leaves a combined rate for commercial/C&D debris of 2.92 pcd.

To achieve a 60% diversion rate means that 40% of the material/waste generated is disposed. The 2010 material/waste generation rate for Lake County was 8.76 pcd (612,720 tons disposed plus 511,368 tons recycled, divided by 2010 census population of 703,462). The 2020 target for material/waste disposed is 3.5 pcd ( $8.76 \times 40\%$ ). To develop a reduction rate factor, the 2020 disposal goal of 3.5 pcd was divided by the current overall disposal rate of 4.77 pcd resulting in a reduction rate factor of 0.73 ( $3.5/4.77 = 0.73$ ). This reduction rate factor was then applied to the current disposal rates for residential waste ( $1.85 \times 0.73$ ) and for combined commercial/C&D debris ( $2.92 \times 0.73$ ). Table 2 shows that the ultimate disposal goals in 2020 are 1.35 pcd for residential waste and 2.13 pcd for combined commercial/C&D debris. The 2015 goals are the half way points.

# SECTION 3

## TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

In June 2010 the Lake County Board and the SWALCO Board of Directors passed a joint resolution (see Attachment A) appointing a 27 member Task Force pursuant to Recommendation R.3 in the 2009 Plan Update. The Task Force included members of the Citizens Advisory Committee that helped develop the 2009 Plan Update, the five primary haulers in Lake County, two compost facilities operators, a recycling facility operator, a C&D recycling facility operator, three members from Incinerator Free Lake County, three members from Lake County (two elected officials), three members from SWALCO (two elected officials), and representatives from the Lake County Municipal League, the Lake County Chamber of Commerce and a large retailer.

The Task Force met a total of 12 times beginning in June 2010 and ending in October 2011 (see Attachment B for the minutes for the meetings). The Task Force also formed an Education Subcommittee that met a total of 4 times beginning in December 2010 and ending in May 2011. The Education Subcommittee work formed the basis of the education and public outreach strategy outlined in Section 4. The remaining subsections below contain the recommendations developed by the Task Force, and approved or accepted by the Lake County Board and the SWALCO Board of Directors, including each of the 40 municipal members of SWALCO that passed local resolutions approving or accepting the Task Force Report. The recommendations are divided along the following three planning sectors: residential, commercial and C&D debris.

### 3.2 RESIDENTIAL SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The residential sector recommendations were developed around 8 core objectives:

- Enhance existing programs
- Expand use of franchising
- Expand access to unit based pricing or pay as you throw (PAYT)
- Implement food scraps/organics collection programs
- Enhance and expand backyard composting
- Expand multi-family recycling
- Target specific materials in the material/waste stream for recycling
- Enact mandatory ordinances if voluntary measures are not successful

For each of the following residential sector recommendations the Task Force also provided input on the implementation timeframe (short - 1 to 3 years, medium - 4 to 7 years, and long - 8 to 10 years); fiscal impact (estimated percentage increase, if any, range of increase, or other appropriate cost measure); and political feasibility (low - difficult to enact local ordinances/program - medium, and high - likely to enact local ordinances/program changes).

#### A. Enhance Existing Programs

1. Require all single family residences in Lake County municipalities and unincorporated areas with franchises to use recycling carts (35, 65 or 95 gallon as appropriate) and single family residences in unincorporated Lake County without franchises to use either 18 gallon recycling bins or recycling carts (35, 65 or 95 gallon as appropriate) for curbside service. Municipalities should implement the transition to carts when their current contract expires or sooner.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short/Medium*

*Fiscal Impact: \$1.50 to \$2.50 per household per month*

*Political Feasibility: Medium*

2. Require all haulers providing residential recycling services to provide an educational flyer to their customers regarding service options/SWALCO programs at least once every other year. Utilize other means, including municipal newsletters, websites, utility bills, reverse telephone messages, to augment the hauler provided flyer on an ongoing basis.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

3. Beginning July 1, 2012 post quarterly material (recyclables and compostables) diversion results and refuse disposal rates in pounds per capita per day (PCD) for all SWALCO members on the SWALCO website.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

## **B. Expand Use of Franchising**

1. Lake County should pursue a geographically limited franchise pilot program in the unincorporated area to test its effectiveness for lowering costs, and increasing recycling and composting by January 1, 2013.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None, typically lower rates with franchise*

*Political Feasibility: Medium*

2. In areas that are not covered by a municipal or township franchise, Lake County should amend its Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance by July 1, 2013 to require that haulers provide recycling service and include it in the cost for service regardless of whether residents choose to recycle or not.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: \$4 to \$6 per*

*household per month for those without service now*

*Political Feasibility: Medium*

## **C. Expand Access to Unit Based Pricing or Pay as You Throw (PAYT)**

1. All Lake County municipalities and townships (with hauling franchises) should include a PAYT option in their franchise contracts with haulers in the next contract or extension. PAYT options include: 1) a sticker based program where each can or bag set out is charged for separately, with or without a base monthly fee, 2) a graduated can option with the price increasing as the size of the refuse can increases, or 3) a limited refuse program which requires a sticker for refuse that is in excess of the limited refuse requirement.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short/Medium*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: Medium*

2. SWALCO/Lake County should evaluate compliance with Lake County's Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance which currently requires haulers to offer a PAYT option to residents residing in unincorporated Lake County and take appropriate steps to ensure compliance by May 1, 2012.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

3. Lake County should amend its Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance, by July 1, 2012, to require that haulers offer a PAYT option, as listed in Recommendation C.1, options 2 (graduated can) or 3 (limited), to residents in unincorporated Lake County.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

#### **D. Implement Food Scraps/Organics Collection Programs**

1. Conduct a pilot residential foodscrap collection program with a SWALCO member in 2012.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: Depends on nature of pilot, may have costs for containers and supplies*

*Political Feasibility: High*

2. Based on the knowledge gained from the pilot program and available processing capacity; decide whether to continue to expand food scrap collection in franchise agreements. By July 2013 review both the outcome of the pilot program and the status of processing capacity and make a determination on how to proceed with food scrap collection and composting.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: Unknown until determination made on how to proceed*

*Political Feasibility: Unknown until program parameters are determined*

#### **E. Enhance and Expand Backyard Composting**

1. SWALCO should resume its compost bin sale program (but no longer subsidize the cost) in 2011 and annually thereafter as long as reasonable demand exists.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

2. Lake County municipalities should modify local ordinances (if necessary) to not discourage backyard composting and to allow for neighborhood garden site composting.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short/Medium*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

3. All Lake County municipalities and the County of Lake should provide education to residents on greenscaping (e.g., mulching grass clippings and leaves) and backyard composting.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

#### **F. Expand Multi-Family Recycling**

1. All Lake County municipalities and the County of Lake should either include multi-family units in new or extended franchise contracts and require that recycling options be included in the services provided to multi-family units or enact ordinances requiring that property owners provide on-site recycling services to their tenants. If units of local government do not have a residential or commercial franchise contract they must enact an ordinance requiring property owners to provide on-site recycling service to their tenants by July 1, 2013.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short/Medium*

*Fiscal Impact: Monthly rates may increase substantially to cover cost of new recycling service if changes are not made to refuse related services (many businesses are able to add recycling service for little or no cost if refuse services are adjusted downward)*  
*Political Feasibility: Medium/Low*

## **G. Target Specific Materials in Material/Waste Stream for Recycling**

1. Electronic (E)-scrap: Continue to expand SWALCO's collection infrastructure so that all residents of Lake County have a convenient year round option for managing e-scrap.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: Minimal, varies from site to site, partially offset by SWALCO's payments to collection sites*

*Political Feasibility: High*

2. Pursue Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) paint legislation by 2013 to cover costs for collecting, processing and managing latex and oil-based paints on a statewide basis.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: May end up creating revenue for SWALCO depending if collection costs are covered by the EPR legislation*

*Political Feasibility: Medium*

3. Pursue EPR plastic bag and film legislation in the 2012 session for collecting, processing and recycling plastic bags and film.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: Medium/Low*

4. Pursue EPR legislation (CA just enacted first carpet law in nation) in the 2013 or 2014 session for collecting, processing and recycling carpet and padding.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: Medium/Low*

## **H. Enact Mandatory Ordinances if Voluntary Measures are not Successful**

1. If Lake County has not achieved a disposal rate of 1.6 pounds per capita per day (pcd) for calendar year 2015, using 2010 as the base year (1.85 pcd), the SWALCO Board members, the Lake County Board and all other municipalities located primarily in Lake County shall enact mandatory recycling ordinances in 2016 requiring all residential units (single units) to recycle those items listed as recyclable per the SWALCO recycling guidelines. If a unit of local government can demonstrate it has achieved the disposal rate goal of 1.6 pcd, it shall not be required to enact a mandatory recycling ordinance.

*Implementation Timeframe: Medium*

*Fiscal Impact: Low, related to enforcement of ordinances*

*Political Feasibility: Medium/Low*

2. If Lake County has not achieved a disposal rate of 1.35 pcd for calendar year 2020 using 2010 as the base year, the SWALCO Board members, the Lake County Board, and all other municipalities located primarily in Lake County shall enact mandatory food scrap collection ordinances in 2021 requiring the diversion of food scraps from final disposal in a landfill. If a unit of local government can demonstrate it has achieved the disposal rate goal of 1.35 pcd, it shall not be required to enact a mandatory food scrap collection ordinance.

*Implementation Timeframe: Long*

*Fiscal Impact: \$4 to \$6 per household per month for food scrap service, this can be reduced if other changes are made to collection frequency for refuse and/or recyclables, or other innovations are achieved through collection efficiencies*  
*Political Feasibility: Medium-Low*

### 3.3 COMMERCIAL SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The commercial sector recommendations were developed around 7 core objectives:

- Enhance existing programs
- Assist units of local government evaluate the use of franchising
- Develop model contract for commercial sector businesses
- Expand scope of hauler licensing ordinances
- Provide material/waste audit assistance
- Expand food scrap collection program
- Enact mandatory ordinances if voluntary measures are not successful

For each of these objectives the following recommendations were approved:

#### A. Enhance Existing Programs

1. SWALCO should work with the local chambers of commerce, the County of Lake and the municipalities to develop and implement an award and recognition program that promotes awareness of businesses that do recycle (e.g., a window sticker indicating this store recycles), and also highlights success stories in Lake County. More specifically, SWALCO should develop a program by 2013, based on the Earth Flag program example, where local businesses that meet certain minimum recycling program standards could self-nominate for a SWALCO recognized recycling designation or status.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: Minimal cost for stickers, awards, promotions*

*Political Feasibility: High*

2. SWALCO should post commercial waste generation and management data on its website on a regular basis beginning in 2012. This data should include the countywide data provided by the haulers and municipal level data for those municipalities with commercial franchise agreements.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

3. As part of the business licensing process utilized by Lake County municipalities and the County of Lake, recycling should either be promoted during the licensing process or become a requirement of licensing. In the absence of a business licensing program, units of local government should consider other recycling outreach and education programs for local businesses.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None, if recycling is only promoted; if required, business costs may increase for recycling service if refuse service is not downsized/reduced or if such a reduction is not feasible (some businesses may already have minimal refuse service and won't be able to reduce service)*

*Political Feasibility: High if promotion only; Medium/Low if a requirement*



## **B. Assists Units of Local Government Evaluate the Use of Franchising**

1. SWALCO should continue to provide assistance and educational materials to municipalities in Lake County that are interested in evaluating commercial franchising.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short/Medium/Long*

*Fiscal Impact: Potential savings to businesses*

*Political Feasibility: Medium*

## **C. Develop Model Contract for Commercial Sector Businesses**

1. SWALCO, with input from the haulers and business community, should develop, by October 1, 2012, a model contract for collection services provided to commercial sector businesses and institutions. The model contract should address key issues such as term of contract, renewal provisions, annual escalators, and surcharge fees. SWALCO should recommend the use of the model contract to local businesses as part of its outreach and assistance to local businesses.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

## **D. Expand Scope of Hauler Licensing Ordinances**

1. SWALCO municipal members and other municipalities primarily located in Lake County should amend their hauler licensing ordinances, by July 1, 2013, to require that haulers offer recycling services to their commercial sector customers. Hauler licensing ordinances should be further amended to require that the hauler's offer to the business that currently don't recycle be in a written form and that the businesses be asked to respond to the hauler's offer in writing as well.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

## **E. Provide Waste Audit Assistance**

1. SWALCO should provide, by July 1, 2012, reference materials and information on its website regarding waste audit procedures and the USEPA's WasteWise program.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

2. As requested and based on available staff time SWALCO staff should provide waste audit assistance to commercial sector businesses or institutions located in Lake County.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short/Medium/Long*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

3. The haulers should provide reference materials and information on their websites regarding their waste audit services by July 1, 2012. For those clients who are not recycling, the private haulers should offer to provide waste audit assistance, based on available staff, at least once every two years.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: NA, up to private sector to implement*



## F. Expand Food Scrap Collection

1. By July 1, 2012, SWALCO should provide reference materials and information on its website regarding the development and implementation of commercial food scrap collection programs, the location of composting sites that can accept food scraps in Lake County and counties contiguous to Lake County, and haulers that provide food scrap collection services. SWALCO should develop a food scrap collection education program targeted at the larger generators of food scrap such as grocery stores, restaurants, food processors, and institutions by January 1, 2013.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: None*

*Political Feasibility: High*

2. SWALCO should attempt to implement a pilot commercial food scrap collection program in 2012 to demonstrate the costs and benefits associated with separate food collection service.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: Unknown, expected to be less than \$5,000 for containers, liners for containers, and informational brochures*

*Political Feasibility: High*

3. SWALCO members, other municipalities primarily located in Lake County, and Lake County should amend their hauler licensing ordinances, by July 1, 2014, to require that haulers offer food scrap collection services to their commercial sector food scrap customers (e.g., grocery stores, restaurants, and food processors).

*Implementation Timeframe: Short/Medium*

*Fiscal Impact: None for offer, actual service if accepted may increase costs but actual impact will be case specific*

*Political Feasibility: High*

## G. Enact Mandatory Ordinances if Voluntary Measures are not Successful

1. If Lake County has not achieved a combined commercial/C&D debris disposal rate of 2.52 pounds per capita per day (pcd) for calendar year 2015, using 2010 as a base year (2.92 pcd), the SWALCO Board members, the Lake County Board and all other municipalities primarily located in Lake County shall enact mandatory recycling ordinances in 2016 requiring all commercial and institutional establishments to have recycling services provided by a hauler or some other service provider or program (e.g., direct to market, broker services, use of drop-off site).

*Implementation Timeframe: Medium*

*Fiscal Impact: May increase costs for some businesses that cannot downsize refuse service enough to pay for recycling service*

*Political Feasibility: Low/Medium*

2. If Lake County has not achieved a combined commercial/C&D debris disposal rate of 2.13 pcd for calendar year 2020, using 2010 as a base year (2.92 pcd), the SWALCO Board members, the Lake County Board and all other municipalities primarily located in Lake County shall enact mandatory recycling ordinances in 2021 requiring all commercial and institutional establishments to recycle those items listed as recyclable per the SWALCO recycling guidelines.

*Implementation Timeframe: Long*

*Fiscal Impact: None, unless enforcement requires additional staff*

*Political Feasibility: Low/Medium*

### 3.4 C&D DEBRIS SECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

SWALCO has taken a proactive approach to assisting with the development of more C&D recycling facilities in Lake County by working with Senator Link to enact legislation in 2009 (Public Act 96-0611), which removes such facilities from local siting approval per Section 39.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and instead requires local zoning approval and a subsequent IEPA permit. To date, Lake County has one permitted C&D recycling facility owned by American Recycling and Roll-off Systems, Inc., located in Zion. There are two other facilities located south of Lake County in Northbrook (C&D Recycling) and Palatine (MBL Recycling), and both currently accept material/waste from Lake County. The City of Chicago with its mandatory C&D recycling ordinance and the green building movement (notably the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design or LEED green building rating system) have had a significant and positive impact on the C&D recycling industry in the Chicago metro area. Now Lake County is ready to expand its C&D recycling programs as well with the introduction of mandatory C&D recycling ordinances (Lake County currently has a mandatory ordinance for certain projects in the unincorporated areas of Lake County) as discussed below in the C&D debris sector recommendations.

#### A. Enact Mandatory Ordinances

1. SWALCO should develop a model C&D debris recycling ordinance, based on state law, with the input of local developers, contractors, haulers and units of local government by April 1, 2012. SWALCO members, and other municipalities in Lake County shall enact the model ordinance (with modifications as deemed necessary by the unit of local government) by January 1, 2013 and make it effective once a C&D recycling facility is located within a reasonable travel distance from the unit of local government and is competitive with the price of landfilling the material.

*Implementation Timeframe: Develop model ordinance – short; Enact local ordinances – short/medium*

*Fiscal Impact: Minimal, goal is to have this be cost neutral or save money*

*Political Feasibility: High, contingent on cost impact being neutral or less than landfilling*

2. Lake County should amend its C&D recycling requirements (included in the Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance) based on the model ordinance prepared by SWALCO in Recommendation A.1, and the location and cost competitiveness of the C&D recycling infrastructure in Lake County.

*Implementation Timeframe: Short*

*Fiscal Impact: Minimal, goal is to have this be cost neutral or save money*

*Political Feasibility: High, contingent on cost impact being neutral or less than landfilling*

### 3.5 OTHER FACTORS IMPORTANT TO REACHING THE DIVERSION GOALS

In addition to the 36 recommendations described above the Task Force also discussed several “macro realities” that are applicable across all three sectors, including:

- The need for conveniently located (to reduce transportation costs which are a main cost driver in the material/waste management business) and adequately sized processing capacity for recyclable and compostable materials that can manage the increased tonnage in an economically viable manner. This includes material processing facilities (MRF) for residential, commercial and institutional recyclables (both fibers and containers); composting facilities permitted to accept not only landscape waste but other organics such as food scrap and food processing residues; and recycling facilities that can manage C&D debris in compliance with state law. Reducing the reliance on landfilling and meeting the disposal goals in this Report will require diverting hundreds of thousands of tons of material out of the landfills and into such diversion facilities. The private sector will be relied upon to develop the needed infrastructure to manage these resources.

- Related to the macro reality discussed above is the concept of encouraging the two in-county landfills to begin evaluating on-site scavenging (which will likely require a modification of their IEPA permits) of the material/waste accepted at the landfills. This ranges from a dirty-MRF located on site to sort out valuable recyclables prior to landfilling, using magnets to harvest metals from the open face of the landfill, to using dedicated drop boxes for materials such as carpeting and mattresses that would then be transported off-site to downstream recycling facilities.
- Market development is essential if Lake County is to be successful in diverting materials from the landfill. The area needing most attention is markets for finished compost as Lake County begins to divert food scraps and other organics from the landfill to composting sites. If food scrap composting is implemented county wide it will increase volumes by 50% or more above current volumes from landscape waste. Other materials that offer unique collection or marketing challenges are #6 and #7 plastics, plastic film and glass.
- Education will be essential if Lake County is to move forward and reach the disposal goals set for 2015 and 2020. Those that generate materials/waste must realize that all programs start with their participation, and they need to understand why that participation is important. In addition, their participation must be made relatively easy and convenient. Section 4 of this Report discusses the education strategy which is partly based on the concept of community-based social marketing. Community-based social marketing utilizes various “tools” (developed and tested by social science research) to foster behavior change by understanding and overcoming barriers at the community level.

## SECTION 4

# EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGY

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### 4.1 BACKGROUND AND INTENT

An Education Subcommittee, comprised of several members of the Task Force, was formed to evaluate and discuss how to effectively communicate the need for and means of achieving a 60% diversion/recycling rate in Lake County. The Subcommittee first met in December 2010 and met several times thereafter to brainstorm and strategize possible methods and initiatives that were then presented back to the Task Force. Attachment C contains a PowerPoint that summarizes the work effort and final recommendations of the Subcommittee.

### 4.2 ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

The Subcommittee discussed articles, conducted research, and shared information to determine what the key issues were that needed to be addressed by an education and public outreach strategy. The Subcommittee developed the following list of key issues:

- Convenience and hassle factor
- Access
- Education (address why recycling is important and how to participate effectively)
- Language Barriers
- Contamination
- Cost
- Perceptions

### 4.3 APPROACH/WHERE TO BEGIN

The most convincing and well-documented work in changing environmental behavior is through social marketing efforts that promote an idea or behavior to a target audience. After reviewing the challenges and obstacles to recycling, the Subcommittee outlined and developed several categories or groups of recyclers here in Lake County (and other regions as well).

- Hardcore
- Green
- Fair weather recyclers
- Trying but confused
- Because you make me
- Not getting the message
- Unreachable (hopeless)

Of these groups, it was agreed that Lake County would have the most success in reaching and encouraging new behaviors, and increased recycling with the: 1) fair weather recyclers, 2) trying but confused, and 3) not getting the message. These groups were also considered to be some of the larger sized population segments. The Subcommittee defined a list of probable barriers for each group and created tactical plans for each, based on the anticipated obstacles and challenges specific to each.

#### 4.4 UNDERSTANDING THE TARGETED GROUPS

The following is a brief overview of the recycling outlook of each group and the barriers to increasing recycling activity with each group as determined by the Subcommittee.

- A. Fair Weather: Know that recycling is important; not truly important to them personally; may recycle occasionally. Key barrier is inconvenience, if easy and not too invasive will participate. Other key factors in behavior are peer pressure; financial incentive or consequence; cynical about where recycling goes. Barriers include: convenience, storage, lack of time, lack of space, pests, too few drop off sites, can't move bin to curb, access, cynical, financial and other perceptions.
- B. Trying But Confused: Try to recycle, but really don't know what to do and don't fully understand importance. Education is barrier, if given education and tools behavior would change; don't understand the program; particularly multi-family where access is challenging. Barriers include: Not sure what to recycle, not sure what to do, don't know where to get information, and financial concerns.
- C. Not getting the Message: Not recycling due to lack of education and information. Barriers exist to receiving information, including language, socio-economic, and cultural. Barriers include: language, don't understand the importance of recycling, doesn't see the big picture, not invested or committed, don't know what can be recycled, and financial concerns.

#### 4.5 CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS FOR ALL GROUPS

The following are considered the critical success factors that must be addresses with each of the target groups discussed above.

- A. Target groups need to see the big picture around material/waste generation and management, and their role in it.
- B. Target groups need to understand that "waste" contains resources that can be recovered.
- C. Target groups need specific information and direction on how to recycle and divert material/waste.

#### 4.6 SUGGESTED TACTICS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

After identifying the targeted groups and discussing the overall factors that would be critical for success the Education Subcommittee then focused on the specific tactics that would best communicate with the targeted groups and overcome the barriers to participating in Lake County's recycling programs. After discussing numerous educational tactics/programs the Subcommittee grouped the tactics into three primary programmatic areas: 1) public relations campaign, 2) electronic or web-based program (E-program), and 3) community outreach program. For each of these three primary program areas a more detailed list of recommendations was developed, as shown below.

##### **A. Public Relations Campaign**

- 1. Develop "umbrella campaign" and logo in an effort to brand the 60% recycling effort in Lake County
- 2. Develop contests and challenges to encourage participation.
- 3. Look further at other successful efforts nationally and internationally.
- 4. Issue periodic press releases and articles.
- 5. Develop PSAs (Public Service Announcements) and messaging through other media, including television. Focus media attention and efforts around the time of "Environmental Holidays" including Earth Day and America Recycles Day.

## **B. E-Program**

1. Utilize, promote and direct residents and groups to the SWALCO website – much information is already there including Recycling Guidelines, Task Force Information page, What Do I Do with my Stuff: Recycle and Redirect Guide, Upcoming Electronics and HCW collections and more. Further develop web presence and information including web pages dedicated to issues such as “why recycling matters”, “top 10 reasons to recycle”; post videos on recycling operations so people can see what happens to recyclables and how they are used as feedstocks for other products; focus on a recyclable for a given month much like a “recyclable of the month”; and develop a frequently asked questions page. Additional pages should also be developed on food scrap composting, commercial sector recycling and waste audits, and C&D debris recycling.
2. Provide specific and detailed information on why it is important to recycle and the impact it has on our own community and beyond.
3. Provide promotional materials people can download view or print.
4. Make educational materials available in English and Spanish.
5. Develop a Recycling Wizard (for example, Toronto’s online “Ask the Waste Wizard”).
6. Consider developing downloadable apps for smart phones and other electronic devices.
7. Utilize You Tube and post informative and fun videos, for example, “The Life of a Can”, “Trip to the Landfill”, etc.
8. Develop social media presence – SWALCO Facebook Page and Twitter.
9. Continue to share/communicate information and ongoing updates and results online throughout process.

## **C. Community Outreach**

1. Develop a “Recycling 101” media kit that includes:
  - a. Educational presentations (PowerPoint, handouts)
  - b. A speakers training guide
  - c. Reminder items (stickers, magnets and bookmarks)
  - d. BRCs or opt-in for website
  - e. English and Spanish formats.
2. Develop Eblasts, quarterly or bimonthly newsletter (English and Spanish) using Constant Contact.
3. Develop monthly set of factoids that other stakeholders can use (schools, community groups, SWALCO members and other municipalities) in newsletters and websites.
4. Supply books, movies, etc. to schools, educators and possibly other appropriate groups.
5. SWALCO should continue and enhance, if possible, its school and community outreach programs, including Earth Flag, and others. Zero waste grant applications and other helpful information and resources.
6. Develop direct mail content in bills for municipal hauling (work with local haulers to assist in this effort).
7. Develop posters for variety of venues, including copy machine areas, recycling bins showing what to do, etc.
8. Continue to educate children to drive household behaviors.

9. Get municipalities more involved; and distribute information to schools, churches, libraries and other community groups.
10. SWALCO should continue to work with its members and non-member municipalities, and provide programs, information (via website and other), attend community events, etc. Develop new tools and programs to help meet mission and reach 2020 goal. Continue to promote the Rs.
11. SWALCO should continue to network with other organizations and public information officers throughout the County to develop a broad based and consistent message regarding the drive to increase recycling and lower disposal volumes in Lake County.

## SECTION 5

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TASK FORCE REPORT

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### 5.1 APPROVAL OF THE TASK FORCE REPORT

The Task Force Report was approved by the 60% Recycling Task Force at its meeting on October 12, 2011. From there the Report was sent to Lake County and each of the 40 municipal members of SWALCO in good standing with the Agency. The members' legislative bodies reviewed the Report and ultimately passed a resolution approving or accepting the Report. After each municipality and Lake County passed resolutions during the period of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ approving or accepting the Report, a final vote was taken by the SWALCO Board of Directors at its meeting on \_\_\_\_\_.

SWALCO is comprised of 41 municipal members and the County of Lake. The City of Waukegan was suspended from SWALCO in 2008 due to its non-payment of the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) fee instituted by SWALCO in 2007. Waukegan along with the other 11 Lake County municipalities that are not members of SWALCO have not participated in the development of this Report. SWALCO intends to reach out to these units of local government to educate them about the Report and to hopefully gain their approval as well.

### 5.2 IMPEMETATION OF THE TASK FORCE REPORT

Planning without implementation renders the planning process a useless exercise. While the planning process was time consuming and required extensive discussions and compromise, the key to success for this Report is its implementation. It will take a public-private commitment to make the type of progress the Report envisions by 2015 and ultimately 2020. Most importantly, it will take a change in attitude and subsequent action by all Lake County residents and businesses to be successful.

SWALCO members have been advised that the first step in implementing the Report is to choose several recommendations, from the list of 36 recommendations that are applicable to them (15 recommendations are applicable to Lake County, 18 to municipalities, 22 to SWALCO and 3 to haulers), that can be achieved relatively quickly and easily. Then start working on ones that are slightly more challenging until they reach those that are most challenging. Building momentum is important and essential in order to stay focused on the goals and to keep making progress. If you asked people 20 years ago if smoking in bars would eventually be against the law in Illinois, they would likely have laughed at the notion. Change is possible, we need to stay focused, have a plan and implement it. SWALCO is not starting at ground zero, the Agency has some of the best recycling and household chemical waste programs in the State, but as stated earlier, we must do better.



## ATTACHMENT A

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### **ATTACHMENT A TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

## ATTACHMENT B

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### **ATTACHMENT B TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES**

## ATTACHMENT C

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### **ATTACHMENT C EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE POWERPOINT**

**Attachment E**  
**RecycleFirstTrashLast Education**  
**Campaign and Strategy**



## Solid Waste Agency of Lake County/CVP Campaign Plan & Timeline

*DRAFT: June 20, 2012*

### Campaign Strategy

Develop an integrated education campaign that incorporates marketing, public relations and advertising to generate county-wide resident awareness for curbside recycling and provide the 41 member communities with information, tools and materials for local implementation.

### Campaign Goals

#### Short-term Goals

- Engage 24 (59%) of SWALCO's 41 members to participate in the education campaign.
- Increase general awareness about how and what to recycle among SWALCO residents (plastics, large rigid plastics recycling). (Goal will be further defined pending resident survey results)
- Increase recycling tonnage among residents in the 41 member communities by 5%. (Note: From 2010-2011 grew 6%, year prior, tons declined 1.5%)
- Among 24 member communities with 350-700 pounds per household average annual tonnage, increase the average per household tons by **XX%** over a period of six months. (SWALCO to provide updated numbers based on growth in these targets from 2010-2011)

#### Long-term Goals (CVP campaign can help set the stage for the following goals)

- Motivate non-cart recycling communities to start using carts for collection and/or upsize existing carts.
- Move more SWALCO communities to pay-as-you-throw.
- In Grayslake MRF communities, increase tonnage above the 42,000 tons threshold.
- Continue to grow tons among the 24 targeted member communities.

### Target Audiences

#### Primary Audiences

Eligible homeowners in all SWALCO member communities, with particular focus on:

- "Sometimes recyclers" - county-wide residents who participate in recycling, but have the capacity to recycle even more
- Residents in the lowest and middle performing communities (between 350 and 700 lbs/household/year)

#### Secondary Audiences

- All Lake County communities/elected officials
- Business community
- Schools (tentative)

### Education Campaign Approach

#### Recycle first. Trash last.

There's an interesting opportunity in recycling's life cycle to begin to transition the mindset from one of pulling recyclables out of the trash, to, ideally, pulling the trash out of the



recycling. This campaign puts the priority on recycling first...and defining what's left...as trash...and visualizing "trash" as nearly (ideally) non-existent. More than just something not to send to the landfill, recycling becomes a valuable resource. Recycling first and trashing last makes the act of reclaiming these resources a proactive part of people's everyday habits.

## Key messages

A key messages document will be prepared that includes overarching messages, linked to the campaign, as well as supporting proof points. These messages once approved and finalized, will be woven into all communications and can become talking points for spokespersons, used in presentations, incorporated into Web copy, etc.

### MESSAGES TO BE ADDED ONCE APPROVED

## Member Engagement and Internal Campaign Launch

As we understand it, the purpose of SWALCO is to implement a regional approach to solid waste management which addresses the economic, political and environmental issues in Lake County. With 41 members that represent the majority of the county, it is important that as many members as possible are supportive of this education campaign and do what they can to help spread it to their residents.

An online survey was distributed in May 2012 to solicit feedback from members on the kinds of tactics and activities and materials communities would be most interested/likely like to utilize and to also gauge their current level of communications (35 communities completed the survey). Some key survey findings include:

- 46% of members have communicated with residents about their local recycling program in the last month.
- The top two means of communication with residents were: 68% of members reported using their website and 43% reported using e-newsletters.
- 88% of members feel current communication and education materials could be better.
- 83% of members are very likely to utilize campaign materials in their own communities.
- The top three materials communities reported that they would most likely use were: information and factoids for their website, newsletter, etc. (91%); posters and fliers (36%) and event materials/giveaways (27%).

### Internal campaign launch

The campaign will be announced internally at an August 1 event in conjunction with the SWALCO anniversary. Invited attendees will include all SWALCO members and elected officials. Specifically, the event will unveil the campaign internally and motivate members to rally around it. We will also use the internal launch to distribute flyers that promote two Webinars scheduled for the following week that will discuss the campaign and member engagement in further detail, with specific focus on how they can utilize it within their local communities.

### Campaign introduction and overview Webinar

Within a week of the Aug. 1 internal launch event, we will hold two Webinars for members, elected officials and other appropriate industry and community representatives to discuss the campaign in greater detail and explain how they can use the online and event toolkits to implement the campaign in their communities. The two Webinars will include the same content, but provide a morning and afternoon option for maximum attendance by members.

An alternative would be to hold one Webinar targeted specifically at the 24 micro-target member communities (as well as their SWALCO Board members) where we can get into more detail with the second Webinar being open to a wider full-County audience.

### **Municipality online toolkits**

General Campaign: An online campaign toolkit created specifically for members to download campaign materials will include:

- Campaign creative images
- Online and video advertisements
- Community organization outreach collateral, such as draft copy about the campaign to be included in newsletters and/or on websites (for local groups such as libraries, rec centers, churches, HOA, etc.)

Taking the Campaign to the Streets: A separate portion of the toolkit will also be made available to member communities\* that focuses specifically on events and would include event collateral materials, such as:

- Pop-up banner/display
- Merchandise\*\* to hand out, including t-shirts, stickers, postcards, etc.
- Door label/stickers\*\*
- Magnets
- Ideas/tips for utilizing the materials

Through the event toolkits, members would be provided the necessary materials for an interactive and purposeful presence at community events.

Some upcoming events include: Vernon Hills Oktoberfest, America Recycles Day (e-scrap event at mall)

\*Quantity TBD, either on first come, first serve basis, for “rent,” loaning library or through an application and selection process by SWALCO.

\*\*These can be available for download and printing from the website, as well as printing a set number to hand out at events as a prompt for people to use in their homes to recycle first, trash last.

## **Target Communities**

The campaign **will reach all SWALCO communities**, but with added focus on communities with an annual per household recycling tonnage between 350-700 pounds. These communities include:

- |                                       |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Port Barrington (349 lbs/household) | • Island Lake (642)          |
| • Beach Park (351)                    | • Tower Lakes (659)          |
| • North Chicago (394)                 | • Winthrop Harbor (666)      |
| • Lake Villa (512)                    | • Lindenhurst (670)          |
| • Vernon Hills (567)                  | • Round Lake Beach (672)     |
| • Round Lake Park (569)               | • Gurnee (686)               |
| • Highwood (596)                      | • Hainesville (693)          |
| • Wauconda (602)                      | • Warren Township (696)      |
| • Round Lake Heights (630)            | • Unincorporated Areas (418) |
| • Antioch (632)                       |                              |
| • Round Lake (637)                    |                              |
| • Lake Barrington (639)               |                              |

## Integrated Tactics

For maximum success, the campaign needs to reach the target audiences in multiple ways and places. A truly integrated campaign means utilizing a wide range of activities, including free and paid tactics. Social marketing is most effective when the target audience:

- Is reached directly
- Makes a personal connection to the campaign
- Receives some sort of follow-up prompt to reinforce the call-to-action (which is to recycle more curbside)

The following sections of this plan give an overview of the different areas of focus, as well as a campaign timeline, broken out by month, including planning, implementation and measurement. Elements include:

- Digital communications
- Public relations
- Advertising/marketing
- Events
- Third party advocates
- Campaign timeline
- Measurement

## Digital Communications

We recommend creating a campaign landing page with a unique URL ([www.RecycleFirstTrashLast.org](http://www.RecycleFirstTrashLast.org)) that works as an extension of the campaign and can be promoted throughout all materials. The page will be a visual and fun way for residents to interact with the campaign, while also easily accessing basic information about curbside recycling in Lake County.

The page will be engaging/interactive and could include for example a recyclable/trash toss game where visitors decide if the item belongs in the recycling container or trash can.

Other digital elements are outlined below.

### Viral videos

Create a series of simple video executions that can be multi-purposed online through websites, YouTube, Facebook, Patch.com and used in media through cinema spots and as TV PSAs. Some ideas for video content include:

- Multipurpose cinema spots, the videos can incorporate some of the lines against trash.
- Hiring a comedian to do “man on the street” interviews about why people do or don’t recycle.

### SWALCO website

While we highly recommend developing a campaign site, we recognize that the SWALCO site has strong visibility, especially among members. We recommend incorporating the Recycle First, Trash Last campaign on the SWALCO your site through links and visuals, etc.



## **Social media**

We recommend harnessing the existing SWALCO [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts to further promote recycling and the campaign. Fans and followers who are already diligent recyclers can help spread the message and engage others in recycling.

Recommendations for leveraging social media presence include:

- Weekly campaign updates, posting of relevant/interesting content
  - Links to articles, fun facts, videos, etc.
  - Calls-to-action (with rewards) – i.e. share this, comment to this, etc.
- Give-a-ways targeting users who respond to certain calls-to-action (i.e. recruiting more friends, sharing a photo or video, etc.)
- Create photo albums on Facebook with photos to create ongoing, fresh content.
  - Upload photos captured at events, driving residents to view their photos online. Additionally, post updates before an event takes place to draw interest and more attendees.
- At all events ensure that important information is captured by those residents who interact with SWALCO and the campaign. This would include:
  - E-mail addresses and Twitter handles
  - All contacts gained in this manner need to be followed up with immediately following the event. This could be as easy as a quick follow on Twitter (along with a message to thank them for attending the particular event) and/or a group e-mail to everyone who attended a particular event.
  - A reminder card (business card-size) could be given to residents who take photos alerting them to where they can view photos and how they can participate in the city's curbside program
- During specific events, promote give-a-ways to encourage people to become a Facebook fan or Twitter follower of SWALCO.

## **Infographics**

Graphic visual representations of information and data, referred to as “infographics” illustrate information in a straightforward and easy-to-decipher way. Customized infographics can be created and included in program flyers, e-blasts, tweets and Facebook posts.

A schedule of infographics, one for each room of the house, can be planned that shows everything that can be recycled in each room, the impact each recyclable has on the environment, etc. Can be pushed out through social media, included in flyers and other collateral pieces and handed out at events.

## **Public Relations**

PR and media relations activities can be an effective and free way to further spread campaign messages to the target audiences. Specifics are described below.

### **General PR materials**

Develop general materials that can be used in the campaign for multiple purposes and distributed to multiple audiences, such as media, residents, community organizations, etc.

- Key messages (program basics, recycling factoids, etc.)
- Program fact sheet/flyer
- Program Q&A
- Media list (work with SWALCO to develop a comprehensive contact list of relevant Lake County media)

- Sample copy for municipalities to use in their newsletters and/or on their websites
- Infographic(s) about Lake County recycling

### Launching the campaign

After the campaign has been unveiled and embraced by the internal SWALCO members, the campaign will be launched to the general public, ideally in early September. One possible way to launch the campaign is with a press conference at a central location (possibly a MRF) where we can officially kick off and unveil Recycle First, Trash Last and invite elected officials, media representatives, member communities and others to attend. CVP would work with SWALCO to conduct media outreach to secure attendance and coverage.

Potential launch dates: Sept 5, Sept 12 and 13. Ideally mid-week, morning time-frame.

### Post-launch PR activities

Conduct frequent outreach to local TV and radio stations, print publications and online outlets in Lake County such as:

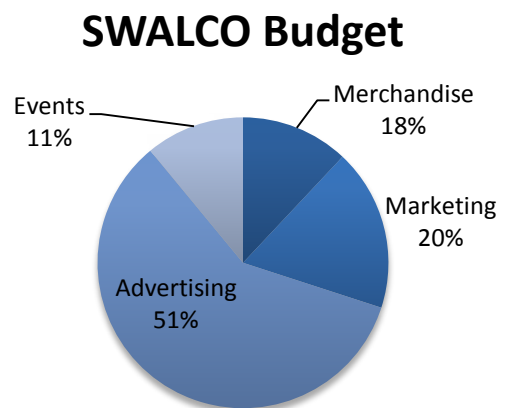
- Press releases announcing various campaign milestones, such as resident engagement, check in on goals, etc.
- Op eds and/or letters to the editor from SWALCO/various members of the community – one early on in the campaign and one near America Recycles Day
- Conduct ongoing outreach and secure interviews for SWALCO staff (spokesperson: Walter), which could include the following angles:
  - Recycling tips (how to prepare items, what can be recycled, how to know if you are doing it right, etc.)
  - A story timed near America Recycles Day
  - Updates on campaign progress
  - General recycling – feature articles on communities or new recyclers

## Advertising/Marketing

CVP recommends SWALCO allocate its budget in the following areas:

- 51% Advertising
- 20% Marketing
- 18% Merchandise (t-shirts, stickers, etc.)
- 11% Events (street teams, displays, etc.)

We acknowledge that the current SWALCO budget for this campaign is \$92,000. The following are our recommendations for the advertising and marketing tactics and estimated budget allocations. Please note that these are estimates, not firm costs at this point. This mix of tactics will cover the Lake County area overall, as well as micro-target select communities that fall in the 350-700 pounds per household per year range.



Items	Estimated Cost
<b>Advertising</b>	<b>\$38,000</b>
Radio (\$8,000)	
Transit – Pace bus shelters and tails (\$12,000); Metra interior train cards (\$8,000)	
Mall posters – Westfield Hawthorn and Simon Gurnee Mills (\$10,000)	
<b>Digital</b>	<b>\$7,000</b>
Triblocal.com – town sponsorship ads (\$4,000)	
Patch.com – static ads (\$3,000)	
<b>Events</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
Street teams (\$5,000)	
<b>Marketing</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>
Direct mail (\$15,000 production and postage)	
Robo calls	
Bill stuffer (with municipalities handling distribution, \$2,500 production)	
Recyclables flyer – online only, no production costs	
Kids flyer – TBD pending quantities	
<b>Merchandise (\$20,000)</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
Recycling truck decals (quantity TBD, price not yet included in total; typical \$200 a piece)	
T-shirts	
Magnets	
Pop-up banner/display (\$250-\$400 per unit)	
Recyclable items stickers	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$87,500</b>
<b>SWALCO Budget Remaining:</b> <i>(Based on \$92,000 Total Budget)</i>	<b>\$4,500</b>

Wherever possible, we try to secure and place PSAs with appropriate media outlets. The suggested mix of tactics does not include any possible PSAs, as this is largely dependent on each individual outlet and will be determined at a later date.

See Appendix A for a full listing of advertising and marketing options.

## Events

### Event marketing

Events are a great way to reach residents directly. We recommend making the most out of events by finding ways to engage residents directly in recycling. We suggest that SWALCO identify 2-3 events during the period of the initial campaign to target in order to best maximize staff resources. Members of these events will be within the target audience, and not all “members of the choir.” Determine in advance of the event what the goals are (recycling sign-up, e-newsletter sign-up, etc.), what staff is needed, what materials will be disseminated, etc.

When choosing which events to attend, consider the following criteria:

- Timing and location
- Staffing needs and commitment
- Financial obligation
- Attendee base
- Past successes

### **Creative event ideas**

- Photo display with faces cut out for people to pose as a trash can and/or recycling cart. Post photos to social media sites and encourage people to visit and tag themselves.
- Hire people to dress in costumes. One person can be dressed as a trash can, another as a recycle cart. This could play off well from the radio ads and vilify trash in a fun way.
- Hire a juggler to juggle the various recyclable items people have at home. Have lists of recyclable materials by rooms in the house available for people to take with them.

### **Kids’ activities**

We recommend tapping into relationships SWALCO has with schools. One activity we recommend is a “Recyclable” sticker campaign. This would involve having stickers with the word, “recyclable” on them available for kids to color and decorate. They can take the stickers home and label things that are still being used in the house to identify what is recyclable before it goes in the trash. Pictures could be taken and uploaded to the Facebook page as a type of family badge, showing that they recycle. This allows the process of recycling to become very interactive for the whole family. An alternative approach would be to have customized “stampers” made for teachers as a giveaway.

SWALCO has existing household hazardous waste stickers, which are a good way to engage younger kids and their parents.

We could also find a way to tap in to the “electronic backpacks” the schools have.

School e-newsletters could also be used to promote the activity to students’ parents to encourage involvement at home.

### **Street teams**

Street teams can be an effective way to energize and engage residents at community events or anywhere. They can be used where SWALCO staffing is an issue, or to supplement events where SWALCO staff will be in attendance. Street teams are professionals who would be trained on the campaign and recycling. They can carry promotional items, flyers, etc. to engage residents at events and deliver campaign messaging. Past experience demonstrates that for them to be most effective, the street team members must match the demographic of the target audience.

### **General event activities**

- Distribute information
- Resident sign-up for recycling
- Contests
- Attendee giveaways
- Resident sign-up for e-newsletters/e-alert system

In addition to the events SWALCO has a presence at, member communities will also be provided with the aforementioned event toolkits to participate in community events as well.

### Third-Party Sponsors/Advocates

Another key component to the Recycle First, Trash Last campaign is the identification and outreach to various prominent community and environmental organizations in the area. We envision working with these organizations on a number of levels, including:

- Attending/supporting the launch event
- Providing program fact sheet/ flyer and speaking at monthly meetings
- Including content in their newsletters
- Submitting an informational blurb about SWALCO's recycling program to go on the organization's site and linking to the campaign site

### Campaign Timeline

#### Phase One: Planning

##### Month One: June 2012

- Kick-off meeting
- Develop and distribute survey for member communities and other relevant contacts
- Develop communications plan, key messages and creative concepts
- Review and approve communications plan and key messages
- Select and finalize campaign creative concept
- Distribute CVP/SWALCO partner announcement release to trade and local media
- Begin allocating budget for marketing and advertising activities
- Begin review process for different campaign creative executions (print ads, bill stuffers, etc.)
- Present campaign budget allocations at full board meeting (June 28)

##### Month Two: July 2012

- Secure SWALCO board support
- Continue developing and finalize campaign materials, including fact sheets, sample newsletter and website copy, etc.
- Reach out to area HOAs/third party organizations for campaign support
- Draft and distribute partner announcement release to local and trade media

##### Month Three: August 2012

- Launch/preview the campaign to SWALCO members and stakeholders in conjunction with 10 year anniversary event
- Finalize all materials for public campaign launch

- Coordinate with members to plan campaign involvement

## **Phase Two: Launch/Implementation**

Month Four: September 2012

- Campaign launches publicly
- Draft and distribute campaign announcement release to local and trade media
- Secure and draft op ed for county official about the importance of recycling and the new campaign
- Advertising/Marketing tactics\*

Month Five: October 2012

- Advertising/Marketing tactics\*

Month Six: November 2012

- Advertising/Marketing tactics\*
- Draft and place op-ed near America Recycles Day

\*To be added once tactics and budget are finalized

*CVP will continue to work with SWALCO to ensure that campaign tactics continue beyond the initial three-month period with member communities' buy-in and support.*

## **Phase Three: Measurement**

Three-month campaign mark: December 2012

- Post-campaign measurement
- Secondary measurement of impact

Six-month campaign mark: March 2013

- Extended measurement

## **Measurement**

- **Participation data** -- (Beginning August 2012) CVP requests at least one month of data prior to campaign commencing. Will want to monitor this data throughout the campaign as much as possible.
- **Tonnage data** – Aggregate several years prior to set a base-line, then evaluate the campaign period as compared to the same time period in the base line.
  - Sept.–Dec. 2012, compared to Sept.–Dec., 2009–2011
  - AND: Sept. 2012–March 2013, compared to Sept. 2009/11–March 2009/11
- **Other measures:**
  - SWALCO website (if possible) and landing page traffic
  - Media coverage
  - Involvement of third parties, etc.
  - Engagement of community residents at events, on social media networks, etc.
  - Anecdotal surrounding calls to SWALCO

## **POST-CAMPAIGN**

**Changes to SWALCO as a result of campaign:**

**TO BE COMPLETED ONCE THE CVP PORTION OF THE CAMPAIGN IS OVER**

**Attachment F**  
**SWALCO Annual Reports for**  
**2009, 2010, and 2011/2012**








# SWALCO Annual Report 2009

Solid Waste Agency of Lake County, IL



Agency Members: Antioch • Beach Park • Deer Park • Deerfield • Fox Lake • Grayslake • Great Lakes NTC • Green Oaks • Gurnee • Hainesville • Hawthorn Woods • Highland Park • Highwood • Island Lake • Kildeer • Lake Barrington • Lake Bluff • Lake County • Lake Forest • Lake Villa • Lake Zurich • Libertyville • Lincolnshire • Lindenhurst • Long Grove • Mundelein • North Barrington • North Chicago • Park City • Port Barrington • Riverwoods • Round Lake • Round Lake Beach • Round Lake Heights • Round Lake Park • Third Lake • Tower Lakes • Vernon Hills • Wadsworth • Wauconda • Waukegan • Winthrop Harbor



# Agency History

In 1989, Lake County became the first county in Illinois to adopt a solid waste management plan in compliance with the Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act. The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) was formed in 1991 to implement the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan, which is updated every five years. The Agency currently represents approximately 85%-90% of the

county's population. Since the Agency was formed, 41 municipalities, Great Lakes Naval Training Center and Lake County have joined to participate in forming and maintaining the county solid waste management system. Agency staff provide members with assistance and advice on solid waste management issues and educate the public on a number of environmental topics including

recycling/waste reduction, sustainability and resource recovery. Each member community designates a representative and alternate(s) to serve on the SWALCO Board of Directors.

During the 2009 year Trustee Larry Mount of Round Lake Beach served as the Chairman of the SWALCO Board and Mayor Glenn Ryback of Wadsworth served as Vice-Chair.

## Mission

- Implement the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Facilitate an efficient, reliable and environmentally sound waste disposal system.
- Advise and assist members regarding solid waste management issues.
- Educate the public regarding implications of solid waste management options.
- Promote the 4 Rs. Identify, evaluate and disseminate information regarding techniques to reduce, reuse and recycle the amount of solid waste generated.



# 2009 Agency Highlights & Overview

## *A Word from the Executive Director...*

2009 was another busy year for SWALCO and its members as we completed the five year update to the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan, implemented a pilot collection program for plastic bags and film, and continued to grow our collection programs for household chemical wastes, electronics and athletic shoes. In addition, SWALCO successfully supported two legislative bills that will lead to increased recycling of construction and demolition debris, and composting of food scraps here in Lake County.

The five year update to the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan began in 2009 with the formation of a citizens' advisory committee to assist with developing policy recommendations for managing the waste and materials generated in Lake County, and was completed when the Lake County Board adopted the update on April 13, 2010.

The Plan Update included revised numbers regarding the amount of waste recycled and landfilled in Lake County. In 2008 it was estimated that Lake County generated 1,292,726 tons of waste/materials and of that

407,158 tons were recycled, 78,887 tons were composted and 806,681 tons were landfilled. The Plan Update also addressed final disposal options which became a topic of debate when it was formally presented to the Lake County Board for approval. Ultimately, the provisions allowing mass burn incineration and gasification of waste were deleted from the plan, while landfilling, anaerobic digestion and transfer stations remained as options for managing waste in Lake County. Finally, the Plan Update established a recycling task force that will investigate programs and alternatives for increasing the current recycling/composting rate in Lake County from 38% to 60% by 2020. The task force will present its finding to SWALCO and the Lake County Board by March 1, 2011.

Another important initiative in 2009 was the Pilot Plastic Bag Recycling Program which was a result of state legislation requiring Lake County to develop and implement a pilot program for collecting plastic bags and film. The purpose of the pilot program was to learn more about the costs and benefits of retailers collecting plastic bags and film, and any burdens or

problems associated with the collection program. An important finding of the study was that over 4% of what we landfill is plastic bags and film, yet the plastic bag alone is only 0.6% of what is landfilled, with the remainder being other plastic films. As a result, the focus on plastic bags and efforts to ban them may be missing the bigger issue associated with plastic film recovery in general. During the pilot program 76 participating retailers collected approximately 259,183 pounds of plastic bags and film. Based on the findings of the pilot program SWALCO is working with Senator Terry Link in hopes of passing statewide legislation to address the collection of plastic bags and film.

SWALCO's programs continue to grow and that growth is predicated on residents and businesses being aware of our programs and participating in them. We will continue to strive to fulfill our mission of promoting waste reduction and decreasing our reliance on landfilling. Ultimately, our goal is to have Lake County be a leader in managing our "waste" as a resource, and creating jobs and a cleaner environment as a result.





# New Recycling Guidelines for Lake County

In 2009 SWALCO developed recycling guidelines for all of Lake County in order to increase recycling and help with educational efforts. Previously each municipality had a different set of guidelines. In the process of creating this document, several additional items were added to the standard list of recyclables including paper cartons (such as Tetra Pak soy and rice milk containers/chicken broth and other), juice cartons, paper cups, and in some

communities household plastic containers #3, 4 and 5 were also added.

Additionally, the guidelines clarify that lids, labels and rings can now remain on metal cans, glass and plastic containers, to make it easier and less prohibitive for our residents to recycle. The guide was designed to be a one page, go-to recycling guide for the Lake County resident that:

- provides a list of acceptable /

recyclable items commonly found in the home or workplace with special notations and guidelines that address related issues and questions,

- addresses some of the more common and frequent questions related to recycling,
- provides a list of some of the more common items that are not acceptable/recyclable and ....
- encourages people to recycle more!

The guidelines serve as a definitive source of information for Lake County residents to assist in clarifying some of the misleading and/or outdated information and to try and address some of the more frequent questions and concerns that residents have with regards to curbside recycling. The guidelines will continue to be adapted and can be found on the SWALCO website.



Photos left: (1) Educational efforts for Plastic Bag Recycling  
2) Marci Moffat from Vernon Hills Public Works with Merleanne Rampale from SWALCO collecting worn-out athletic shoes to be recycled. Vernon Hills Public Works offers a year-round drop for individuals or families who have shoes they'd like to recycle. Groups wanting to collect larger numbers should contact SWALCO.  
3) Televisions, computers and other electronics were dropped off at one of the Electronics Recycling Collection Events. SWALCO sponsors numerous events with its members throughout the year.  
4) Crayons collected for crayon recycling projects with schools and libraries. 5) SWALCO event celebrates America Recycles Day and offers residents an opportunity to learn about recycling and gather

# Public Information and Education



Above: SWALCO Information and Education Director, Merleanne Rampale talks with residents at one of many community events.

Below: Students and teachers from Howe School gather their shoes and work on other projects for their Earth



One of SWALCO's primary directives is to do outreach and educate the public about the importance of the 4Rs, sustainable practices and resource management. SWALCO's Public Information Officer plans and directs a variety of projects and programs for the Agency, including: school education, Reuse-A-Shoe, America Recycles Day events, Earth Day celebrations, community outreach and education, member services, and more. A wide variety of information and resources are created and published, and a website, [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org), with resources and helpful information, in addition to

program information, is maintained. Work is underway to create a new online Recycle & Redirect Guide. During 2008-2009, education and assistance was provided to community organizations, schools, businesses/corporations and others in our member communities to help develop "environmental teams" and implement related programs and projects. Articles and publications on waste, recycling and other topics were created and provided for various community and member newsletters and journals. Presentation/talks were given to groups on a number of recycling and other environmental issues.

Topics included: "Recycling at Home, Work & Play", "Everything You Always Wanted to Know about SWALCO...", "Composting 101", "The Importance of Buying Recycled" and a number of presentations on sustainability, recycling, and the importance of the Rs. There were appearances made on local cable programs to talk about the Agency and its programs. A number of village/city special events were attended to assist members, providing interesting displays, educational information and resources for the local community. Residents had an opportunity to ask questions they wanted answered on a variety of environmental

## School Education—2009 Highlights



Students from Viking School in Gurnee (below) and Braeside School in Highland Park (above) doing their part to recycle! Viking School participates in a paper retrieval program that earns funding



- Three schools earned Earth Flags during the 2008-2009 school year. Schools recycled varied items and hosted mini recycling classes. Other activities included: Reuse-A-Shoe, Litterless Lunches, Walk to School Day, Earth Friendliness Day with garden planting and litter pick-up.
- 11 schools received Earth Flag Everyday Award Plaques for recycling paper, plastic, aluminum, inkjet cartridges, cell-phones and other recyclables and hosting activities like: Waste-Free Lunches, permanent recycling kiosks to recycle a number of items, book swaps and donations, Abitibi paper recycling, soda can and pop-top recycling and locker clean-outs.
- Conducted solid waste and environmental workshops/ programs.
- Schools, educators and parents, not in one of the formal programs, are also assisted throughout the year, as they look for resources and assistance with a number of environmentally related topics. Assistance and information is also provided to help implement recycling programs or other projects and activities in the schools.
- Assist with other K-12 and college efforts.

## Reuse-A-Shoe Athletic Shoe Recycle & Reuse

Every year across the globe, millions of shoes end up in landfills or disposed of in some other way. Much of what we dispose of contains valuable materials that, with a little bit of imagination and ingenuity can be reused. With the pursuit of sustainability in mind, SWALCO teamed up with Nike for the 5th year to offer this program that collects worn-out athletic shoes of any brand and recycles them into a grind used to make sports surfaces like running tracks and playgrounds. Residents of all ages were involved and gym shoes of all sizes and colors filled the collection boxes. Nearly 90 groups from around the county participated, including schools, libraries, park districts,

municipalities, businesses and corporations, Scout Troops, churches and other community groups. United Partnership of Wauconda, Vernon Hills Public Works, Vernon Hills Park District and State Rep. Kathy Ryg graciously opened their doors and continued to act as year-round drop-off sites for the program for individuals/families looking to drop off shoes. Gurnee Park District was also added as a year-round drop-off site in 2009. Over 27,000 shoes were collected to be recycled and approximately 2,000 pairs of gently worn shoes were donated. Groups interested in participating in this fun and unique program can visit SWALCO's website or contact the PIO at 847-336-9340 x 4.



### 2009 Reuse-A-Shoe Program

Above: Girl Scouts drop-off their shoes to be recycled after they've collected, sorted and processed (removed metal bits, etc.) them.

All groups go through a short orientation session. Below: Over 27,000 shoes were collected and shipped to Nike to be recycled into "grind".



## Special Events and Projects

- New Recycling Guidelines were developed for all of Lake County.
- Participated in Earth Day Celebrations with Waste Management Recycle America and others. Acted as resource for groups and organizations and assisted them in planning their own events.
- Presented at member events including village/city celebrations, open houses, Public Works events, environmental health and safety fairs, as well as special festivities, summer fests & other events.
- Sponsored the 2nd Annual Recycle-O-Rama to celebrate America Recycles Day with Warren-Newport Public Library. Hundreds of visitors were able to learn about recycling guidelines, composting and vermicomposting, rain barrels, rain gardens, local resources; talk with experts on a variety of environmental topics; participate in activities for kids and adults, and have an opportunity to recycle a large number of items that could not be recycled in their curbside recycling. Additionally, attendees could visit/participate in a swap corner with fabric, games, books, movies and music and more.
- Produced and published 2009 Green Holiday Guide with information, resources and ideas for green gifts, decorating, & entertaining.
- Produced variety of articles and publications for Agency website, municipal and corporate newsletters, websites and others, etc.
- Updated Agency website and began development of an online guide to help people recycle and redirect unwanted items in an environmentally responsible manner and answer other questions. What do I do with my Stuff?

### 2nd Annual Recycled -O-Rama





# Household Chemical Waste



SWALCO's Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Collection Program is in its twelve year of operation. Our HCW program is a **hybrid program** consisting of **mobile collection events** (held at various locations throughout Lake County) and **public drop-off events** (held at our Gurnee facility). This hybrid program improves accessibility to residents and provides the

opportunity to conduct HCW collections on a year round basis. SWALCO's hybrid program is the first of its kind in the State of Illinois.

**Eight (8) mobile events** were conducted during the 2009 year. The mobile collection events were conducted at locations throughout the County during the spring through fall period, April through November. Various

municipal service centers, public works facilities, train stations, high schools etc. served as the site locations.

**Additionally, Twenty four (24) public drop-off events** were conducted at our Office/HCW facility in Gurnee. The Public Drop-off program continues to grow in popularity due to its convenience, speed of service and year round operation.

## Program Overview

SWALCO offers year-round HCW collections at the Gurnee Facility and mobile collection events at locations around the county, from spring to fall.

The intent of SWALCO's HCW program is to reduce the volume and toxicity of our municipal waste stream. This is accomplished by diverting HCW from the municipal waste stream and sending that waste stream to IEPA approved recycling and reuse facilities. Our HCW program is not only important from an environmental

perspective it is also a great public safety program. Residents no longer have to stockpile their HCW, or pour them down the drain because "there is no other option". Our HCW Program could not function without the support of our member communities and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). SWALCO maintains key Intergovern-

mental Agreements with our members and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Our Agreement with the Village of Gurnee allows us to operate the facility under certain operational parameters. Our IEPA agreement outlines general operational guidelines and provides funding for the "disposal" of the wastes while naming the IEPA as generator of the



## Supplemental Programs

SWALCO continued to provide technical assistance to four supplemental programs that directly benefit our HCW Program. Those programs were the Elia Township Partner for Paint Program, the waste oil collection programs located

in Lake Zurich and Lake Barrington and the new HCW satellite collection facility located in Lincolnshire. The establishment and operation of these types of programs is important to SWALCO as they provide the public other

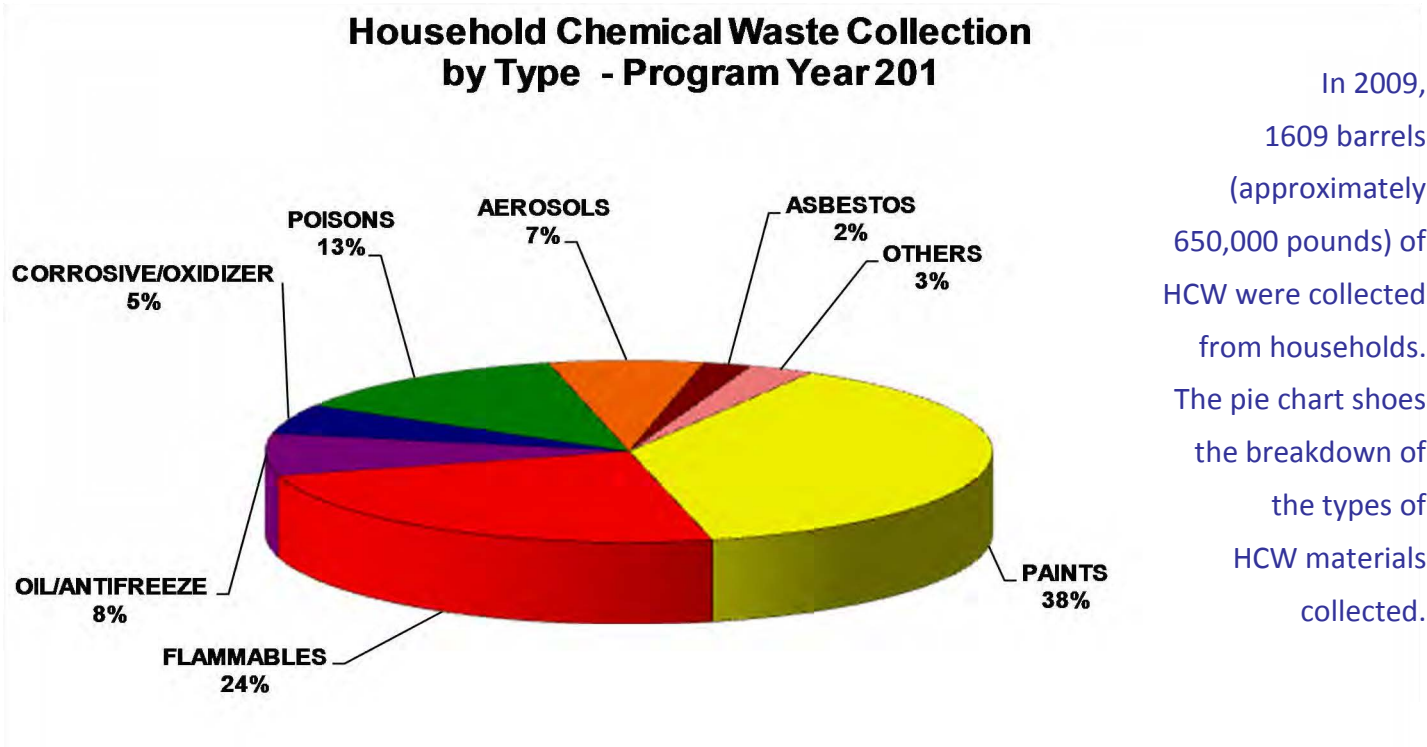
outlets for the disposal of their HCW. Additionally, the paint and oil collection programs ship their wastes directly to reuse/recycling facilities. This diverts these waste streams from ours thereby reducing our operational costs.



The Partners for Paint Program was an IEPA recycling program for unwanted latex and oil based paints. Elia Township Highway Department (Lake Zurich area) served as the participating member for the past six years. An estimated 2,000 gallons of paint were collected in 2009 during the period April – September. Due to IEPA funding cuts this program has been terminated.

The Lake Zurich Oil Collection Program continues to be a valuable outlet for residents wanting to recycle their used motor oil. This program operates year round at the LZ Public Works Department. Residents can place their containers of used oil inside the yellow collection shed. Public Works employees then transfer the oil from the containers into a bulk tank awaiting pickup by an oil recycling company. Six thousand one hundred and eighty six (6,186) gallons of motor oil were collected during 2009. Since its inception in 1998, the program has collected approximately 68,900 gallons of motor oil.

The Village of Port Barrington also operates a residential motor oil collection program. The Program is located at its Public Works Department and is similar to the Lake Zurich program. However, appointments to drop off your oil are required. Since becoming operational in mid-2007 approximately 725 gallons of oil have been collected.



## New Satellite Station

New in 2009 was the establishment of the HCW Satellite Collection Program. The Lincolnshire Riverwoods Fire Protection District now collects HCW (on an appointment basis) at its Fire Station # 51, located at 115 Schelter Road, Lincolnshire.

SWALCO obtained a permit from the IEPA and provided HCW specific training to the Fire District’s fire fighters. The District’s fire fighters can now safely collect HCW from the residents served by the Fire District Lincolnshire, Riverwoods, and Vernon

Hills ). HCW collected through this program is incorporated into our overall HCW Program.

This program became operational in late October/ early November of 2009.



A HCW Satellite Collection Program was established in 2009 for residents of Lincolnshire, Riverwoods, and Vernon Hills.

# Recycling in Lake County



With the adoption of the 2009 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, the County recycling rate was significantly modified due to new guidelines used to calculate the rate.

The total volume of material

recycled, and in turn diverted from landfills in 2009, was estimated to be 38%.

The 2009 Recycling Report for Lake County was compiled in accordance with state law, which defines the types of materials that may

be counted in determining the recycling rate: residentially generated waste, commercial and industrial wastes (excluding manufacturing waste volumes), landscape waste, and construction and demolition debris.



## Per Ton Payment

The Per Ton Payment Agreement between SWALCO and Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA) has made recycling profitable for participating Lake County communities that direct their waste services provider to deliver their recyclables to the WMRA facility in Grayslake.

In 2009 thirty-two SWALCO

members received a combined total of \$84,980 for the 43,529 tons of recyclables collected from their communities.

SWALCO receives funds from WMRA on a quarterly basis, and then distributes the money to the member communities based on the tons of recyclables collected from their community. There

is no financial risk for the members. Members did not receive any funds for recyclables collected during the first and second quarters of 2009 due to depressed commodity market values for the materials. Markets did regain strength in the second half of the year and payments to members resumed for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters.



Plastic Bag and Wrap Collection Sites and Bag/Wrap Recycling Education efforts.



## Plastic Bag Recycling

On August 17, 2007 the Governor signed into law the Plastic Bag Recycling Act (PA 095-0268). The Act established a Task Force comprised of local Lake County legislators and businesses including representation by SWALCO. From May to December, 2009, the Task Force implemented a pilot collection program in which

a total of 15 Lake County retail businesses agreed to collect and recycle plastic bags from customers at a total of 76 individual locations throughout the County. Nearly all of the businesses have sustained their collection program beyond the pilot phase and found that it was not a significant burden to offer this service to their

customers. A final report was developed by SWALCO on behalf of the Task Force and was presented to the leadership of the Illinois General Assembly and the Governor. A copy of the report can be found on the SWALCO web site. SWALCO intends to utilize the report as a basis for statewide legislation to increase plastic bag and film recycling.



## Electronics

In 2009 a total of 26 host collection sites accepted residential electronics, which was a 40% increase over the 18 collection sites that operated in 2008. In summary, a total of 16,977 participants delivered electronics to our host locations resulting in a total of 779.7 tons (1,559,400 pounds) of material being recycled. These totals represent a 30% increase in drop off traffic and a 38% increase in e-scrap tonnage

over 2008 totals. Since the inception of the program beginning in 2000, a total of 4.96 million pounds have been collected from 49,866 participants which continues to make the SWALCO Residential Electronics Collection Program the largest and longest operating program in the State of Illinois.

On December 28, 2009 staff executed a new no cost agreement with Materials

Processing Corporation of Mendota Heights, Minnesota. This agreement operates in accordance with the State law in that the processing costs for all electronics collected by the Agency are funded by an electronics manufacture. The no cost agreement assures the Agency that at minimum, 2 million pound of electronics will be funded through calendar year 2010.



Pete Adrian readies products for shipment.

The Agency collected over 1.5 millions pounds



## Public Recycling

Data has indicated that the vast majority of single serve beverage containers that are consumed away from home are not being recycled. They are typically disposed of in trash receptacles located in parks, public walkways, retail business establishment entrances and gas stations. Over the past year SWALCO has maintained its support of projects to assist members in

collecting recyclable beverage containers at public recreation facilities, municipal special events and at gas station pumps.

In 2009 SWALCO continued to supplement the distribution of both portable and permanent recycling collection containers to both municipal members and the original gas station pilot

participants. SWALCO provided 20 portable special event recycling collection containers for the Village of Libertyville's summer community events. The gas station beverage container recycling program was also expanded in the City of Highland Park where 16 collection containers were provided to five businesses.



SWALCO encourages people to recycle at

## Compost Bin Sales

SWALCO provided compost bins for sale at a reduced price at several locations in Lake County during 2009. In addition to creating mulch for yards and gardens, composting at home means residents will dispose of less material.

Composting has many benefits for the homeowner, including lower garbage bills. The program has been responsible for placing over 16,000 bins in households throughout Lake County and accounts for an estimated 5,000+ tons of organic

materials being diverted from our landfills annually. The SWALCO website has information on composting, with how-to links and resources as well as where to purchase bins.



Compost Bin Sales make it possible for residents to try backyard composting at home. The SWALCO website has how-to links and



## SWALCO Staff

Walter Willis, Executive Director

Peter Adrian, Recycling Coordinator

Barbara Amadei, Office Manager

Steve Nelson, Household Chemical Waste Engineer

Merleanne Rampale, Public Information Officer /  
Education Director



## Contact the Agency



SWALCO Office and  
HCW Facility  
in Gurnee, Illinois

1311 N. Estes  
Gurnee, IL 60031  
847.336.9340  
FAX: 847.336.9374  
[swalco.org](http://swalco.org)

For more information about SWALCO's programs and services, or for our **Event Hotline**, please call the SWALCO office at **847-336-9340**.

Visit us on the web at **[www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org)** for:

- **More information on programs and services**
- **Upcoming collections and events**
- **Online "What Should I Do with My Stuff" Recycle and Redirect Guide**
- **Lake County, IL Recycling Guidelines & other information on Recycling and Waste Reduction**
- **Information & articles on how to live a more sustainable life.**
- **E-List Sign-up:** You can sign up for our general e-list service announcements to receive occasional announcements and information on upcoming events, programs and related information.
- **Educators, youth leaders and others can sign up for a separate e-list service for occasional information and**



# SWALCO Annual Report 2010

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## *SWALCO's Services*

- Composting and Compost Bin/Rain Barrel Sales
  - Community Events and Programs
  - E-Lists, including E-List for Educators and those who work with Youth
  - Electronics Recycling Collections
    - “Going Green”
- Household Chemical Waste Facility and Collections
  - Environmental Legislation
  - Member and Community Support, Recycling Programs and Hauling Contracts
  - Online Recycle and Redirect Guide: What do I Do with My Stuff? and other information
  - Public Information and Outreach
  - The 4Rs: Reducing, Reusing, Recycling & Buying Recycled
- School Education Programs and Assistance
  - Shoe Recycling and Reuse Program
  - Sustainability and More

# Agency History

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recovery. Each member community designates a director and alternate(s) to serve on the SWALCO Board of Directors.

During the 2010 year Trustee Larry Mount of Round Lake Beach served as the Chairman of the SWALCO Board and Mayor Glenn Ryback of Wadsworth served as Vice-Chair. Kent Street, Village Manager of Deerfield, served as the Chairman of SWALCO's Executive Committee.

## Mission

- Implement the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Facilitate an efficient, reliable and environmentally sound waste disposal system.
- Advise and assist members regarding solid waste management issues.
- Educate the public regarding implications of solid waste management options.
- Promote the 4 Rs. Identify, evaluate and disseminate information regarding techniques to reduce, reuse and recycle the amount of solid waste generated and information on buying recycled.





# 2010 Agency Highlights & Overview

## *A Word from the Director...*

In 2010 SWALCO continued to focus on growing recycling programs throughout Lake County, and along with the Lake County Board appointed a 27 member Recycling Task Force to develop more ideas and programs for achieving a 60% recycling rate by 2020. The Recycling Task Force began monthly meetings in June and is focusing on programs in three main waste/material generating sectors: 1) residential, 2) commercial, and 3) construction & demolition debris. It is expected that the Task Force will finalize its report in 2011.

As part of its efforts to continue to enhance recycling programs in Lake County, SWALCO members have continued to replace the small recycling bins with larger more convenient recycling carts that are three to four times as large as the small bins. In 2010 the following members went to the cart based collection: Fox Lake, Highland Park, Libertyville and Island Lake. SWALCO continues to help its members move to cart programs, with 31 towns now using the carts for recyclables, and many towns have the option of upgrading to a 95 gallon cart for recyclables.

The two privately owned and operated in-county landfills were also in the news in 2010. The Zion Landfill was granted an expansion by the City of Zion that will

provide for approximately 8,953,000 million tons of capacity and extend the life of the landfill for at least another ten years. SWALCO and Lake County also negotiated a new host agreement with Veolia, the landfill owner, which includes environmental safeguards, a guarantee of disposal capacity for the next six years, and an increased host fee payment to Lake County. The Countryside Landfill began a voluntary program to monitor hydrogen sulfide emissions in conjunction with the IEPA, USEPA, and the Lake County Department of Health. The monitoring data is being utilized as part of an overall effort to reduce odors and understand the impact that WMP's gas collection and control programs are having on hydrogen sulfide related odors. The study began in March and will continue into 2011.

SWALCO took some important steps regarding its governance structure and funding mechanism in 2010 as well. The SWALCO board voted unanimously to amend its intergovernmental agreement regarding the qualifications necessary to serve on the Board of Directors as a director or alternate. After this change was made a new Executive Committee was elected by the Board of Directors which included several new members on the Executive Committee. SWALCO also negotiated an agreement with Lake County and its

Health Department regarding the collection of the landfill surcharge used to help fund SWALCO and the Health Department's solid waste enforcement program which regulates solid waste management facilities in Lake County. Under the new agreement SWALCO now directly collects 75% of local surcharge allowed by state statute with the Health Department collecting the remaining 25%. The fund balance was also split between the two entities.

Finally, SWALCO continued to stay active with legislation in 2010 by working with the plastic bag manufacturers to develop legislation requiring increased recycling of plastic bags and film in Illinois, with hopes of filing legislation in the 2011 spring session. SWALCO is also involved with talks with the paint industry, with assistance from the Product Stewardship Institute, to file legislation in 2012 or 2013 that would require paint manufacturers to fund programs for the collection and recovery of both latex and oil based paints. Paints account for about 35% of the material we collect in our Household Chemical Waste program and this type of legislation would shift the cost for managing paint from the public sector to the private sector and consumers of paint.





# Recycling Guidelines for Lake County

SWALCO developed recycling guidelines for all of Lake County in order to increase recycling and help with educational efforts. Previously each municipality had a different set of guidelines. In the process of creating this document, several additional items were added to the standard list of recyclables including paper cartons (such as Tetra Pak soy and rice milk containers/chicken broth and other), juice cartons, paper cups, and in some communities household plastic containers #3, 4 and 5 were also added.

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- provides a list of some of the more common items that are not acceptable/recyclable and ...

- encourages people to recycle more!

The guidelines serve as a definitive source of information for Lake County residents to assist in clarifying some of the misleading and/or outdated information and to try and address some of the more frequent questions and concerns that residents have with regards to curbside recycling. The guidelines will continue to be adapted and can be viewed or printed from the SWALCO website. SWALCO encourages all Lake county residents to follow these guidelines and share with neighbors and friends.



Photos left: (1) Staff from Habitat for Humanity/Re-Store talk to visitors about reuse possibilities. They were one of several exhibitors at the **3rd Annual Recycle-O-Rama and Environmental Fair**. 2) Compost Bin Sales make it possible for residents to try backyard composting at home. Visit SWALCO's website for how-to-links and resources at [swalco.org](http://swalco.org). 3) Mayor Susan Lahr from Lindenhurst and Merleanne Rampale from SWALCO talk with residents at the Village's Earth Day celebration event. 4) Mayor Nandia Black from Kildeer and Pete Adrian from SWALCO look over the day's collection of electronics at a Household Electronics Recycling Collection event held in spring. Televisions, computers, small appliances and other electronics were dropped off by residents to be recycled. SWALCO sponsors numerous events with its members throughout the year.



# Public Information and Education



Above: SWALCO Public Information & Education Director, Merleanne Rampale talks to Sierra Club members and other residents about recycling. Below: Environmentally-minded students from Warren Township HS assisted in a variety of capacities at SWALCO's annual Recycle-O-Rama.

One of SWALCO's primary directives is to do outreach and educate the public about the importance of the 4Rs, sustainable practices and resource management. SWALCO's Public Information Officer plans, directs and develops a variety of projects and programs for the Agency, including: school education, Reuse-A-Shoe, Recycle-O-Rama & America Recycles Day events, Earth Day celebrations, community outreach and education, member services, and more. A wide variety of information and resources are created and published, A new online Recycle & Redirect Guide was created and is now available on the web-

site at [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org). During 2009-2010, education and assistance was provided to community organizations, schools, businesses, corporations and others in our member communities to help develop "environmental teams" and implement related programs and projects. Articles and publications on waste, recycling and other topics were created and provided for various community and member newsletters and journals. Presentation/talks were given to groups on a number of recycling and other environmental issues. Topics included: "Recycling at Home, Work & Play", "Everything You Always Wanted to Know

about SWALCO...", "The Importance of Buying Recycled" "Composting 101", and a number of presentations on sustainability, recycling, and the importance of the Rs. There were appearances made on local cable programs to talk about the Agency and its programs. A number of village/city special events were attended to assist members, providing interesting displays, educational information and resources for the local community. Residents had an opportunity to ask questions they wanted answered on a variety of environmental topics.

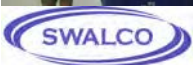
## School Education—2010 Highlights



Above: Students from Lake Bluff Elementary School unfurl their new Earth Flag. Below: Recyclers from Beach Elementary School doing their part!



- Thirteen schools earned Earth Flag Awards during the 2009-2010 school year. Schools recycled various items including paper, plastic, aluminum, inkjet cartridges, cell phones, and other items and participated in the shoe recycling and reuse program as well as a number of other environmental activities like waste-free lunches, locker clean-outs, native plant gardening, book swaps and clothing drives.
- Conducted solid waste and environmental workshops/ programs.
- Assisted other schools, educators and parents, outside the formal programs, providing resources and assistance throughout the year. Assistance and information is also provided to help implement recycling programs or other projects and activities in the schools.
- Assisted with other K-12 and college efforts.
- Received award from local High School Environmental Club
- Supplied further information and resources via SWALCO's E-list for educators and others who work with youth, including project ideas, curriculum resources, grant information and more.



## Reuse-A-Shoe Athletic Shoe Recycle & Reuse

Every year across the globe, millions of shoes end up in landfills or disposed of in some other way. Much of what we dispose of contains valuable materials that, with a little bit of imagination and ingenuity can be reused. With the pursuit of sustainability in mind, SWALCO teamed up with Nike for the 6th year to offer this program that collects worn-out athletic shoes of any brand and recycles them into a grind used to make sports surfaces like running tracks and playgrounds. Residents of all ages were involved and gym shoes of all sizes and colors filled the collection boxes. Nearly 90 groups from around the county participated, including schools, libraries, park districts,

municipalities, businesses and corporations, Scout Troops, churches and other community groups. United Partnership of Wauconda, Vernon Hills Public Works, Vernon Hills Park District, First Baptist Church of Waukegan and Zion-Benton Public Library graciously opened their doors and continued to act as year-round drop-off sites for individuals/families looking to drop off a small number of shoes. Over 32,000 shoes were collected to be recycled and approximately 3,000 pairs of gently worn shoes were donated to people in need. Groups interested in participating in this fun and unique program can visit SWALCO's website or contact Merleanne Rampale at 847-336-9340 x 4.



### SWALCO's 2010 Reuse-A-Shoe, Shoe Recycling and Reuse Program

Above: Highland Park's Lincoln School students making a difference. SWALCO's program has diverted several tons of shoes each year from landfills. Over 32,000 shoes were shipped to Nike to be recycled into "grind". Additionally, 3,000 pair were donated to "Share Your Soles".



## Special Events and Projects

- Participated in Earth Day Celebrations with Recycle America as well as community organizations. Acted as resource for groups and organizations and assisted them in planning their own events.
- Presented at member events including village/city celebrations, open houses, Public Works events, environmental health and safety fairs, as well as special festivities, summer fests & other events.
- Sponsored 3rd Annual Recycle-O-Rama with Warren-Newport Public Library and Warren Township High School. Hundreds of visitors learned about recycling guidelines, composting, rain barrels, rain gardens, eco products, local resources; talked to experts on a variety of environmental topics, participated in activities for kids and adults, a swap corner with fabric, games, books, movies and more; had an opportunity to recycle a large number of items that could not be recycled in curbside recycling, including electronics, smoke detectors, propane tanks, car seats, latex paint, eyeglasses, hearing aids and more.
- Wrote and published an expanded 2010 Holiday Green Guide with information, resources and ideas for green gifts, decorating, & entertaining. Also included green cleaning recipes and more. Composed "Greening Your Halloween" Guide.
- Presented programs on recycling and other topics for a variety of groups including Sierra Club, Lake County Government employees, Lion's Club and others.
- Produced an online guide to help people recycle and redirect unwanted items in an environmentally responsible manner and answer other questions. What do I do with my Stuff?
- Produced variety of articles and publications for Agency website, municipal and corporate newsletters, websites and others.



# Recycling in Lake County



With the adoption of the 2009 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, the County recycling rate was adjusted due to revised guidelines used to calculate the rate.

The total volume of material recycled, and in turn

diverted from landfills in 2010, was determined to be 39%.

The 2010 Recycling Report for Lake County was compiled in accordance with state law, which defines the types of materials that may be counted in determining

the recycling rate: residentially generated waste, commercial and industrial wastes (excluding manufacturing waste volumes), landscape waste, and construction and demolition debris.

## Per Ton Payment



The Per Ton Payment Agreement between SWALCO and Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA) has made recycling profitable for participating Lake County communities that direct their waste services provider to deliver their recyclables to the WMRA facility in

Grayslake.

In 2010 thirty-two SWALCO members received a combined total of \$450,256 for the 42,679 tons of recyclables collected from their communities.

SWALCO receives funds from WMRA on a quarterly basis,

and then distributes the money to the member communities based on the tons of recyclables collected from the community. There is no financial risk for the members.

## Electronics

SWALCO's Electronics Recycling Program continues to grow each year. In 2010 a total of 33 host collection sites accepted residential electronics, which was a 20% increase over the 26 collection sites that operated in 2009. A total of 21,997 participants delivered electronics to our host locations resulting in a total of 935.8 tons (1,871,505 pounds) of material being recycled. These totals represent a 23% increase in drop off traffic

and a 17% increase in e-scrap tonnage over 2009 totals.

Since the inception of the program beginning in 2000, a total of 6.84 million pounds have been collected from 72,046 participants which continues to make the SWALCO Residential Electronics Collection Program the largest and longest operating program in the State of Illinois.

The Agency maintains a contract

agreement with Materials Processing Corporation of Mendota Heights, Minnesota. This agreement operates in accordance with the State law in that the processing costs for all electronics collected by the Agency are funded by an electronics manufacture. The no cost agreement assures the Agency that at a minimum, 2 million pound of electronics will be funded through calendar year 2012.



SWALCO encourages people to recycle where they live, work and play!

## Public Recycling

Data has indicated that the vast majority of single serve beverage containers that are consumed away from home are not being recycled. They are typically disposed of in trash receptacles located in parks, public walkways, retail business establishment entrances and gas stations. Over the past year SWALCO has maintained its support of projects to assist members in collecting recyclable

beverage containers at public recreation facilities, municipal special events and at gas station pumps.

In 2010 SWALCO continued to supplement the distribution of both portable and permanent recycling collection containers to both municipal members and the original gas station pilot participants. SWALCO provided portable special

event recycling collection containers for many spring and summer community events throughout the county.

Recycling also came for the first time to the Lake County Fair. Containers were placed at several locations throughout the fairgrounds with "Lake County Fair Recycles" signs.

Compost Bin Sales make it possible for residents to try backyard composting at home. Visit SWALCO's website for how-to links and resources at [swalco.org](http://swalco.org).

## Compost Bin Sales

SWALCO provided compost bins for sale at a reduced price at several locations in Lake County during 2010. In addition to creating mulch for yards and gardens, composting at home means residents dispose of less.

Composting has many benefits for the homeowner, including lower garbage bills. The program has been responsible for placing over 16,000 bins in households throughout Lake County and accounts for an estimated

5,000+ tons of organic materials being diverted from our landfills annually. The SWALCO website has information on composting, with how-to links and resources.



# Household Chemical Waste

SWALCO's Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Collection Program is in its twelve year of operation. Our HCW program is a *hybrid program* consisting of *mobile collection events* (held at various locations throughout Lake County) and *public drop-off events* (held at our Gurnee facility). This hybrid program improves accessibility to residents and provides the opportunity to conduct HCW collections on a year-round basis. SWALCO's hybrid program is the first of its kind in the State

of Illinois.

Seven (7) Mobile events were conducted during the 2010 year. The mobile collection events were conducted at locations throughout the County from April through November. Various municipal service centers, public works facilities, train stations, high schools etc. served as the site locations.

Additionally, Twenty four (24) public drop-off events were

conducted (by appointment only) at our Office/HCW facility (pictured below) in Gurnee. The Public Drop-off program continues to grow in popularity due to its convenience, speed of service and year-round operation.



SWALCO offers year-round HCW collections at the Gurnee Facility and mobile collection events at locations around Lake County, from spring to fall.

## Program Overview

The intent of SWALCO's HCW program is to reduce the volume and toxicity of our municipal waste stream. This is accomplished by diverting HCW from the municipal waste stream and sending that waste stream to IEPA approved recycling, reuse and disposal facilities. Our HCW program is not only important from an environmental perspective,

it is also a great public safety program. Residents no longer have to stockpile their HCW, or pour them down the drain because "there is no other option". Our HCW Program could not function without the support of our member communities and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). SWALCO maintains key Intergovernmental

Agreements with our members and the IEPA. Our Agreement with the Village of Gurnee allows us to operate the facility under certain operational parameters. Our IEPA agreement outlines general operational guidelines and provides funding for the management of the wastes while naming the IEPA as generator of the wastes.



Left: 1) Residents can drive through and drop off their household chemical waste products. 2) Items that can be brought to a HCW collection include: household cleaners, fluorescent lights & CFLs, garden/lawn chemicals, insecticides, prescription drugs (people & pet), over-the-counter medicines & supplements and more. Visit [swalco.org](http://swalco.org) for a more comprehensive list of items that are accepted.



## Supplemental Programs

SWALCO continued to provide technical assistance to various supplemental programs that directly benefit our HCW Program. Those programs were the Lake Zurich and Lake Barrington waste oil collection programs and the new HCW satellite collection facility located in Lincolnshire.

The establishment and operation of these types of programs is important to SWALCO as they provide the public other outlets for the disposal of HCW.

The Lake Zurich Oil Collection Program continues to be a valuable outlet for residents wanting to recycle their used motor oil. This program operates year round at the LZ Public Works Department. Residents can place their containers of used oil inside the yellow collection shed. Public Works employees then transfer the oil from the containers into a bulk

tank awaiting pickup by an oil recycling company. Five thousand and one hundred and seventy five (5,175) gallons of motor oil were collected during 2010. Since its inception in 1998, the program has collected approximately 74,000 gallons of motor oil.

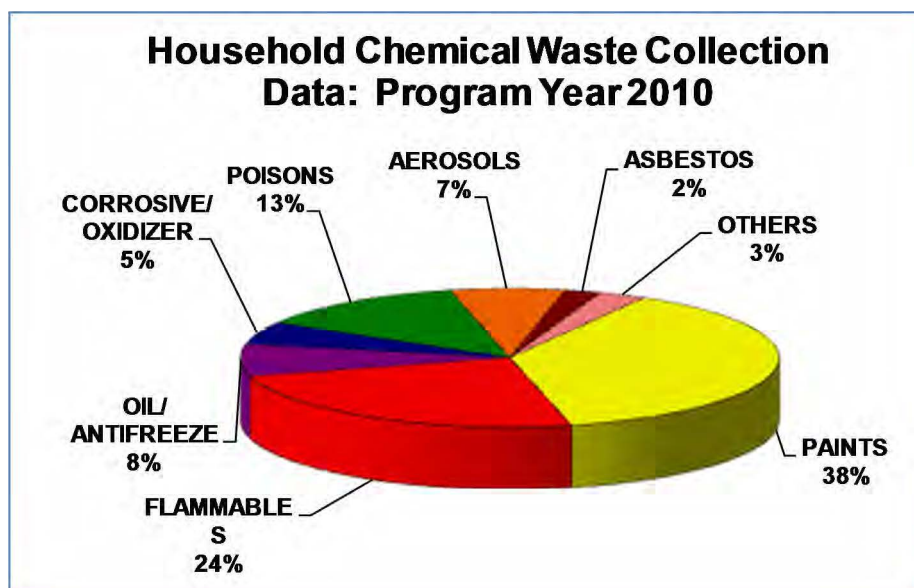
The Village of Port Barrington also operates a residential motor oil collection program. The Program is located at its Public Works Department and is similar to the Lake Zurich program. However, appointments to drop off your oil are required. Since becoming operational in mid-2007 approximately 875 gallons of oil have been collected.

The Lincolnshire Riverwoods Fire Protection District now collects HCW (on an appointment basis) at its Fire Station # 51. This HCW collection facility is located at 115 Schelter Road, Lincolnshire



(pictured above). SWALCO secured operational permits from the IEPA and provided HCW specific training to the Fire District's fire fighters. The District's fire fighters can now safely collect HCW from the residents served by the Fire District. HCW collected through this program is incorporated into our overall HCW Program. This program served approximately 150 residents in 2010.

In 2010, 1658 barrels (approximately 650,000 pounds) of HCW were collected from households. The pie chart shows the breakdown of the types of HCW materials collected.



Pictured Above: Residents can drop off their used motor oil at the yellow shed at the Lake Zurich Public Works Department, year-round. In 2010, 5,175 gallons of oil were collected and recycled from this program.

## SWALCO Staff

Walter Willis, Executive Director

Peter Adrian, Recycling Coordinator

Lorin Buchta, Office Manager

Steve Nelson, Household Chemical Waste  
Engineer

Merleanne Rampale, Public Information Officer /  
Education Director



SWALCO Office and HCW Facility  
in Gurnee, Illinois

## Contact the Agency



1311 N. Estes  
Gurnee, IL 60031  
847.336.9340  
FAX: 847.336.9374  
**swalco.org**

For more information about SWALCO's programs and services, or for our **Event Hotline**, please call the SWALCO office at **847-336-9340**.

Visit us on the web at **www.swalco.org** for:

- More information on programs and services
- Upcoming collections and events
- Online "What Should I Do with My Stuff" Recycle and Redirect Guide
- Lake County, IL Recycling Guidelines & other information on Recycling, Waste Reduction & Resource Recovery
- Information & articles on how to live a more sustainable life.
- E-List Sign-up: You can sign up for our general E-list service announcements to receive occasional announcements and information on upcoming events, programs and related information.
- Educators, youth leaders and others can sign up for a separate E-list service for occasional information and announcements specifically for them.



# SWALCO Biennial Report 2011 & 2012

Solid Waste Agency of Lake County, IL



Agency Members: Antioch • Bannockburn • Beach Park • Deer Park • Deerfield • Fox Lake • Grayslake • Great Lakes NTC • Green Oaks • Gurnee • Hainesville • Hawthorn Woods • Highland Park • Highwood • Island Lake • Kildeer • Lake Barrington • Lake Bluff • Lake County • Lake Forest • Lake Villa • Lake Zurich • Libertyville • Lincolnshire • Lindenhurst • Long Grove • Mundelein • North Barrington • North Chicago • Park City • Port Barrington • Riverwoods • Round Lake • Round Lake Beach • Round Lake Heights • Round Lake Park • Third Lake • Tower Lakes • Vernon Hills • Wadsworth • Wauconda • Waukegan • Winthrop Harbor • Zion

# Core Programs and Services

- Clothing and Textile Recycling
- Composting Resources and Education
  - Compost Bin/Rain Barrel Sales
  - Community Events and Programs
- E-Lists, including E-List for Educators and those who work with Youth
  - Electronics Recycling Collections
- “Going Green” and Sustainable Living Resources
- Household Chemical Waste Facility and Collections
  - Environmental Legislation
- Member and Community Support and Resources, including Recycling Programs, Hauling Contracts and additional services
  - Online A-Z Recycling Guide: & Community Recycling Guidelines
  - Public Information and Outreach
- The 4Rs: Reducing, Reusing, Recycling & Buying Recycled
  - School Education Programs and Assistance
- Reuse-A-Shoe: Shoe Recycling and Reuse Program
  - Sustainability and More



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## Agency History

In 1989, Lake County became the first county in Illinois to adopt a solid waste management plan in compliance with the Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act. The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) was formed in 1991 to implement the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan, which is updated every five years. The Agency currently represents approximately 85%-90% of the county's population. Since the Agency was formed,

42 municipalities, Great Lakes Naval Training Center and Lake County have joined to participate in forming and maintaining the county solid waste management system. Agency staff provide members with assistance and advice on solid waste management issues and educate the public on a number of environmental topics including recycling, waste reduction, sustainability and resource recovery. Each member community designates a

director and alternate(s) to serve on the SWALCO Board of Directors.

During the 2011 and 2012 years Trustee Larry Mount of Round Lake Beach served as the Chairman of the SWALCO Board and Mayor Glenn Ryback of Wadsworth served as Vice-Chair. Kent Street, Village Manager of Deerfield, served as the Chairman of SWALCO's Executive Committee.

## Mission

- Prepare and implement the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Facilitate an efficient, reliable and environmentally sound waste disposal system.
- Advise and assist members regarding solid waste management and sustainability issues.
- Educate the public.
- Promote the 4 Rs. Identify, evaluate and disseminate information regarding techniques to reduce, reuse and recycle the amount of solid waste generated and provide information on the importance of these and buying recycled.



# 2011 and 2012 Agency Highlights & Overview

## A Word from the Director...

Two of the more important Agency efforts in 2011/2012 were: 1) the development and approval of the *60% Recycling Task Force Report*, and 2) the Curbside Value Partnership (CVP)/SWALCO education and communications program which resulted in SWALCO's "Recycle First, Trash Last" (RFTL) campaign.

On December 15, 2011 the SWALCO Board of Directors approved the *60% Recycling Task Force Report* which took approximately 18 months to complete with the assistance of a 27 member task force. Ultimately, the task force developed 36 recommendations and set a goal of reducing the amount of waste disposed from 4.8 pounds per person per day to 3.48 pounds per day by 2020. The Report was reviewed and voted on by all the individual members of SWALCO during the early part of 2012, and in turn the members have been actively implementing many of the Report's recommendations.

In 2012, SWALCO was selected by CVP to be one of its two nationwide programs for increasing curbside recycling levels through a targeted marketing and communications effort. SWALCO approved an agreement with CVP in August, and unveiled the campaign at a media event held at Waste Management, Inc.'s recycling facility in Grayslake on September 12, 2012. During the rest of the fall, the "Recycle First, Trash Last" media campaign ran via numerous media outlets, including radio, internet, social media, mass mailings, and webinars. A media toolkit was

developed, along with merchandise (t-shirts, stickers, magnets, banners) that was provided to SWALCO members to utilize at community events, etc. SWALCO budgeted \$80,000 for the advertising, merchandise and events, and received an additional \$10,000 in funding from haulers operating in Lake County.

SWALCO members took seriously the recommendations in the *60% Recycling Task Force Report*, primarily through upgrades to their local municipal waste and recycling hauling contracts. Numerous towns, including Kildeer, Grayslake, Port Barrington, Lincolnshire, Hainesville and Round Lake Beach added provisions that allow their residents to upgrade to a large, 95 gallon recycling cart at no cost. Also for the first time Riverwoods implemented a residential hauling franchise that saved its residents money and expanded recycling opportunities. On the commercial side, both Grayslake and Deerfield approved the issuance of request for proposals for commercial franchises in their towns.

2011/2012 also saw significant growth in food scrap collection programs, along with newly permitted food scrap composting capacity at Nu-Earth in Waukegan and Midwest Organics Recycling near Wauconda. By the end of 2012 all the Lake County Jewel grocery stores, WalMart's, Costco's and Whole Foods grocery stores were separately collecting food scraps for composting. SWALCO teamed with several other entities and held a food scrap composting workshop in

Highland Park on October 18, 2012 that was attended by approximately 100 interested businesses and citizens. Finally, in August, Highland Park began a pilot residential food scrap collection program with approximately 100 households signing up for the program with Veolia, the city's residential hauler. Each household was provided with a kitchen pail, biodegradable plastic liners for the pail and a 35 gallon collection cart. On average each household set out about 6 pounds per week of food scraps.

2011 and 2012 were excellent years for SWALCO's electronics recycling program and the Per Ton Rebate program with Waste Management, Inc. (WMI). In 2011, SWALCO members and partners collected 1,877,378 pounds of electronics and saw that volume increase to 3,088,242 pounds in 2012 with the implementation of the landfill ban. SWALCO operates the largest e-scrap recycling program in the State. Overall, 2011 and 2012 were good years for recyclables markets which translated into significant payments to our members, \$1,133,815 in 2011 and \$572,766 in 2012. SWALCO also signed an extension with WMI for the Per Ton Rebate program that runs through 2014.

SWALCO worked with Senator Link in 2011 to introduce plastic bag and film recycling legislation based on the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility. The bill was held over to the 2012 legislative session and ultimately was approved by both the Senate and House

before being vetoed by the Governor. The effort to override the veto was not successful. SWALCO was successful in getting HB 4986 enacted (Public Act 97-0853) which requires the state to form a task force to look at the issue of state and local funding through the landfill surcharge, county planning efforts, and increased material recovery and landfill diversion.

SWALCO entered into a groundbreaking agreement with WMI regarding its Countryside Landfill, with WMI agreeing to install 24/7 monitoring devices to monitor for hydrogen sulfide, as odors again plagued the landfill in 2011. The agreement includes hydrogen –sulfide emission standards that are quite stringent, including fines for violating the limits. In 2011 the Zion Landfill received approval for a vertical expansion but is still awaiting approval for its final lateral expansion (both the vertical and lateral expansions were granted siting approval by Zion on 2010).

In November 2012 Groot Industries filed its notice of intent to file a siting application with the Village of Round Lake Park for a proposed garbage transfer station. If sited this would be the first garbage transfer station sited in Lake County.

SWALCO held a 10 year anniversary open house in 2012, for its Household Chemical Waste/Office location in Gurnee.

And finally, among other advancements, accomplishments and happenings, SWALCO gladly welcomed its' 42<sup>nd</sup> municipal member, Bannockburn to the Agency.



**RecycleFirstTrashLast.org**  
Here are the first things you need to know when recycling curbside in Lake County, IL. Place these items together in your recycling container:

METAL	PLASTIC	PAPER	GLASS
<p><b>ACCEPTED:</b> All clean and empty aluminum cans, foil and foil pans, steel and tin cans, spray cans and paint cans, kitchen pots, pans and trays, cans.</p> <p>Caps, lids, pull tabs and labels may remain on the containers. Place metal lids inside of empty cans.</p>	<p><b>ACCEPTED:</b> All clean and empty plastic household containers, bottles of any size, jugs, tubs, cups, cleaned, empty containers, reusable food containers, laundry baskets, hangers, buckets, storage bins, jerry cans, tubs, plant pots, uncleaned tops, small non-inflatable pools.</p> <p>Cups, lids, rings, handles and labels should be left on the plastic containers.</p>	<p><b>ACCEPTED:</b> All clean and empty plastic bags and wrap should be crumpled into one bag and tied closed. Recycle them at your nearest participating grocery or retail store. Do not place plastic bags and wrap in your recycling container. For more info go to <a href="http://Recycling.org">Recycling.org</a>.</p> <p>Include grocery bags, newspaper bags, bread bags, produce bags, up to 10 bags, toilet paper, napkins and paper towel bags, car wash, dryer bags, dry cleaning bags, plastic, metal, bubble wrap, electronic bags, furniture bags, lawn and other plastic shopping containers.</p> <p>DO NOT include frozen food bags, uncleaned metal bags, too heavy, degraded or contaminated bags.</p>	<p><b>ACCEPTED:</b> Clean and empty glass bottles and jars, all colors.</p> <p>Remove all caps and lids.</p>
<p><b>NOT ACCEPTED:</b> Propane or helium tanks, needles or syringes, electronics, small appliances, batteries, hangers, wires, holiday lights, decorations, flares, combustible liquids or gases.</p> <p>Recycle containers and just should be clean, empty of all liquids and free of food residue.</p>	<p><b>NOT ACCEPTED:</b> Foam cups, foam containers, foam packaging material, plastic bags, plastic wrap, plastic utensils and garden hoses.</p> <p>Plastic containers should be clean, empty of all liquids and free of food residue.</p>	<p><b>NOT ACCEPTED:</b> Plastic bags, plastic wrap and liners, contaminated cardboard that needs food residue or wax coating, paper towels, napkins, facial tissues, plastic, laminated paper or paper coated with food, wax or foil.</p> <p>Paper boxes and cartons should be clean, empty and free of all liquid, food residue or packing materials.</p>	<p><b>NOT ACCEPTED:</b> Light bulbs, drink glasses, mirrors, bakeware, mirrors, ornamental glass, windows and auto glass.</p> <p>Glass containers should be clean, empty of all liquids and free of food residue.</p>

For more information on how to properly recycle or dispose of items not listed, please contact SWALCO at (847) 326-9290 or go to [RecycleFirstTrashLast.org](http://RecycleFirstTrashLast.org). This information was last revised September 2010.



To view or print the Recycling Guidelines, in English or Spanish, visit the SWALCO website @ [swalco.org](http://swalco.org).

## Recycling Guidelines for Lake County

SWALCO developed a set of recycling guidelines that serve all of Lake County in order to increase recycling and help with educational efforts. Each year, the document is reviewed and any new developments, changes or information related to curbside recycling are incorporated into the document. Since it was created, several new items have been added to the acceptable list for

curbside recycling here in our community, including paper cartons (such as Tetra Pak soy and rice milk containers/chicken broth and other), juice cartons, paper cups, and most recently, all hard, rigid plastics, including children's toys, laundry baskets and more.

Additionally, the guidelines clarify some of the more frequently asked questions

such as, that lids, labels and rings can remain on metal cans, glass and plastic containers,. In 2012 the Agency had the guidelines translated into Spanish. The guide is available and can be downloaded, viewed or printed online, in English or Spanish, at [swalco.org](http://swalco.org). We encourage residents to print a copy and keep on their refrigerator or somewhere handy and accessible.

# Public Information, Outreach and Education



In addition to outreach and work with community groups, businesses, environmental teams, municipal leaders and other groups, SWALCO works with local schools, providing educational programs, opportunities and resources.

One of SWALCO's primary directives is to do outreach and educate the public about the importance of the 4Rs, sustainable practices and resource management. SWALCO's Public Information Officer/Education Director plans, directs and develops a variety of projects and programs for the Agency, including: school education, Reuse-A-Shoe, Recycle-O-Rama & America Recycles Day events, Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sales/Education, Earth Day celebrations, member services, and other community outreach and education.

A wide variety of information and resources are created, published, and the Agency encourages anyone who is interested to visit us online and sign up to

receive SWALCO's electronic news bulletins. An online A-Z Recycling Guide is available on the website at [swalco.org](http://swalco.org) and continues to grow.

During 2011 and 2012, education and assistance was provided to community organizations, schools, businesses, corporations and others in our member communities to help develop "environmental teams" and implement environmental and/or sustainability programs and projects. Articles and publications on waste, recycling and other topics were created and provided for various community and member newsletters and journals, as well as magazines. Presentations/talks were given to groups on a number of recycling and other environmental issues. Topics included: Recycle First, Trash Last

efforts, Recycling at Home, Work and Play, "Everything You Always Wanted to Know about SWALCO...", "The Importance of Buying Recycled" "Greening Your Business, Composting 101", and a number of presentations on sustainability, recycling, and the importance of the Rs.

Appearances were made on local cable TV programs to talk about the Agency and its programs and initiatives. A number of village/city special events were attended to assist members, providing interesting displays, educational information booths and resources for the local community. Residents had an opportunity to ask questions on a variety of environmental topics.

## School Education—2011 and 2012 Highlights

- In 2011 and 2012, 18 schools, and 23 schools respectively, participated and earned certification in the Earth Flag Programs.

Schools recycled various items including paper, plastic, aluminum, inkjet cartridges, cell phones, and other items and participated in the Reuse-A-Shoe program as well as a number of other environmental activities like waste-free lunches, locker clean-outs, native plant

gardening, composting, book swaps and clothing drives.

- Conducted solid waste and environmental workshops and programs.
- In addition to Earth Flag schools, SWALCO assisted other schools, educators and parents, providing resources and assistance throughout the year to help implement recycling programs or other projects and activities in the schools.
- Assisted with other

K-12 and college efforts and initiatives.

- Scout Troops with efforts to earn badges and certification. Worked with Eagle Scouts on their special Projects.
- Supplied further information and resources via SWALCO's E-list for educators and others who work with youth, including project ideas, curriculum resources, grant information and more.



## Reuse-A-Shoe

Every year across the globe millions of shoes end up in landfills or disposed of. With the pursuit of sustainability in mind, SWALCO teamed up with Nike for the 7th & 8th years to offer an opportunity for community members to collect and drop-off worn-out athletic shoes. The collected shoes are recycled and turned into a grind used to make sports surfaces like running tracks and playgrounds. Additionally, shoes of all types were collected for re-use. All ages were involved and shoes of all sizes and colors filled the collection boxes.

Groups from around the county

participated, including schools, municipalities, libraries, park districts, small businesses, larger corporations, Scout Troops (Scouts can earn their Reuse-A-Shoe Badge), churches and others.

Over 20 tons of shoes were collected each year. Groups could enter contests with eco-friendly prizes. Every group who participated was awarded a special certificate. Anyone interested in participating in this fun and unique program can visit SWALCO's website to learn more. Contact Merleanne Rampale, [mrampale@swalco.org](mailto:mrampale@swalco.org) or 847-336-9340 to sign up and join in the fun.



## Special Events and Projects

- Participated in and co-sponsored numerous Earth Day Recycling and other community events and celebrations. Acted as a resource for groups and organizations and assisted them in planning events and launching community initiatives.
- Presented and/or provided educational booths and displays at member events including village/city celebrations, open houses, Public Works events, environmental health and safety fairs, as well as special festivities, summer fests & other events.
- Sponsored annual Recycle-O-Rama events with hundreds of residents from around the community dropping off a variety of hard-to-recycle items like fire extinguishers, bikes, and more.
- Wrote and published articles including "Composting 101", "Green Cleaning Guide and Recipes", "Greening Your Halloween", articles on recycling and why we should, for Agency website, municipal and corporate newsletters and others.
- Presented programs on recycling and a variety of environmental topics for numerous groups around the region.
- Coordinated numerous activities and initiatives for Recycle First, Trash Last campaign, including producing a video on how to recycle in every room in your house.

## Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sales

SWALCO provides compost bins and rain barrels at reduced prices. In 2011 the agency began partnering with Lake County Stormwater Management Commission and Lake County Forest Preserves to conduct an annual compost bin and rain barrel sales. In addition to creating mulch for yards and gardens, composting at home

means residents dispose of less. Utilizing rain barrels conserves water and has many benefits. In addition to the numerous environmental benefits, composting at home and using captured rain water can also lower utility bills. The SWALCO website has information on composting, compost bin and rain barrel sales, with how-to links/resources.





# Recycling in Lake County



Recycling rates have remained relatively stable over the past two years, holding just over 45%. Recycling behaves similarly to the economy and therefore the amount of materials being recycled has retracted slightly over the last two years. In 2011 SWALCO calculated that a total of 508,550 tons of materials were diverted

from landfill for recycling. In 2012 that number dropped slightly to 504,346 tons. Some reasons for this retreat may be attributed to a weak economy, changes in consumer behavior and light-weighting of products by manufactures. Recycling rates are calculated in accordance with the State Solid Waste

Management Planning Act which defines the types of materials that may be counted in determining the recycling rate: residentially generated waste, commercial and industrial wastes (excluding manufacturing waste volumes), landscape waste, and construction and demolition debris.

## Per Ton Payment



The Agreement between SWALCO and Waste Management Recycle America (WMRA) continues to make recycling profitable for participating Lake County communities that direct their waste service provider to deliver recyclables to the WMRA facility in Grayslake. In December of 2011 the Agreement was extended for an additional three years (through December

31, 2014). The extension amended the payment calculations and allowed for the Agency to receive an education credit of \$1 per ton when the calculated index value was above \$5.00/ton. This credit became effective in 2012 and will increase to \$1.50 per ton in 2013 and 2014. In 2011 thirty six SWALCO Members received a combined total of \$1,133,815.38 for the 44,922.15 tons of

recyclables collected from their communities. In 2012 the volume of recyclables directed to WMRA decreased to 41,326.04 tons. Due to the volatility of the recycled commodities market the value of the recyclables decreased netting the communities a combined total of \$534,928.32. The education credit was paid to the Agency for all but one month netting a total of \$37,838.26.

## Electronics

SWALCO's Electronics Recycling Program continues to show strong growth. In 2011 a total of 31 host collection sites accepted residential electronics resulting in a total of 938.7 tons (1,877,378 pounds) of electronics being recycled. On January 1, 2012 the Illinois Electronic's Recycling and Reuse Act landfill ban took effect. Televisions, computers, computer monitors, printers and thirteen other electronic devices can no longer be disposed of in Illinois landfills. With the

enactment of this law, the SWALCO volume surged. In 2012 a total of 37 host collection sites accepted electronics resulting in a total of 1,544.1 tons (3,088,242 pounds) of electronics being recycled. This represents a nearly 40% increase in volume over 2011. Since the inception of the program in 2000, a total of 11.8 million pounds have been collected from over 150,000 participants making the SWALCO Residential Electronics Collection Program the

largest and longest operating program in the State of Illinois. The Agency maintains a contract agreement with Sims Recycling Solutions of West Chicago. This agreement operates in accordance with the State law in that processing costs for all electronics collected by the Agency are funded by electronics manufactures. The no-cost agreement assures the Agency and the residents of Lake County that they don't need to pay to recycle their electronics.



## Recycle First, Trash Last

In 2012, SWALCO was selected by Curbside Value Partnership to be one of its two nationwide programs for increasing curbside recycling levels through a targeted marketing and communications effort. SWALCO unveiled the campaign at a media event on September 12, 2012. The "Recycle First, Trash Last" media campaign ran via numerous media outlets, including radio, internet, social media, mass mailings, and webinars. A toolkit that members could utilize was developed, and included merchandise (t-shirts, stickers, magnets, banners), copies of the latest Curbside Recycling Guidelines, and activities and worksheets for youth. Visit [recyclefirsttrashlast.org](http://recyclefirsttrashlast.org) for resources, downloadables, and more.

## Public Recycling

Data has indicated that the vast majority of single serve beverage containers that are consumed away from home are not being recycled. They are typically disposed of in trash receptacles located in parks, public walkways, retail business establishment entrances and gas stations.

SWALCO has maintained its support of projects to assist members in collecting recyclable beverage containers at public recreation facilities, municipal events and at gas station pumps. In 2011-2012 SWALCO continued to encourage recycling in public locales and provided portable

special event recycling collection containers for many spring and summer community events throughout the county, including the County Fair.





# Household Chemical Waste Management

SWALCO's Household Chemical Waste (HCW) Collection Program is in its sixteenth year of operation. Our HCW program is a hybrid program consisting of mobile collection events (held at various locations throughout Lake County) and public drop-off events (held at our Gurnee facility). This hybrid program improves accessibility to residents and provides the opportunity to conduct HCW collections on a year-round basis. SWALCO's hybrid program is the first of its kind in the State of Illinois.

Twelve (12) Mobile events were conducted during the 2011-2012 season. The mobile collection events were conducted at locations throughout the County from April through November. Various municipal service centers, public works facilities, train stations, high schools etc. served as the site locations.

Additionally, Forty-eight (48) public drop-off events were conducted (by appointment only) at our Office/HCW facility (pictured right) in Gurnee. The Public Drop-off program

continues to grow in popularity due to its convenience, speed of service and year-round operation.



SWALCO offers year-round HCW collections at the Gurnee Facility and mobile collection events at locations around Lake County, from spring to fall.

## Program Overview

The intent of SWALCO's HCW program is to reduce the volume and toxicity of our municipal waste stream. This is accomplished by diverting HCW from the municipal waste stream and sending the waste to IEPA approved recycling, reuse and disposal facilities. The HCW program is not only important from an environmental

perspective, it is also a great public safety program. Residents no longer have to stockpile their HCW, or pour them down the drain because "there is no other option". The HCW Program could not function without the support of our member communities and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). SWALCO maintains key Intergovernmental

Agreements with our members and the IEPA. The Agreement with the Village of Gurnee allows us to operate the facility under certain operational parameters. The IEPA agreement outlines general operational guidelines and provides funding for the management of the wastes while naming the IEPA as generator of the wastes.



Left: 1) Residents can drive through and drop off their household chemical waste products. 2) Items that can be brought to a HCW collection include: household cleaners, fluorescent lights & CFLs, garden/lawn chemicals, insecticides, prescriptions (people & pet), over-the-counter medicines, supplements and more. Visit [swalco.org](http://swalco.org) for a more comprehensive list of items that are accepted.

## Supplemental Programs

SWALCO continued to provide technical assistance to supplemental programs that directly benefit our HCW Program. Those programs were the Lake Zurich and Port Barrington waste oil collection programs and the new HCW satellite collection facility located in Lincolnshire.

The establishment and operation of these types of programs is important to SWALCO as they provide the public other outlets for the disposal of HCW.

The Lake Zurich Oil Collection Program continues to be a valuable outlet for residents wanting to recycle their used motor oil. This program operates year round at the LZ Public Works Department. Residents can place their containers of used oil inside the yellow collection shed. Public Works employees then transfer the oil from the containers into a bulk tank awaiting pickup by an oil recycling company.

Approximately 11,900 gallons of motor oil were collected during 2011-2012 season. Since its inception in 1998, the program has collected approximately 85,900 gallons of motor oil.

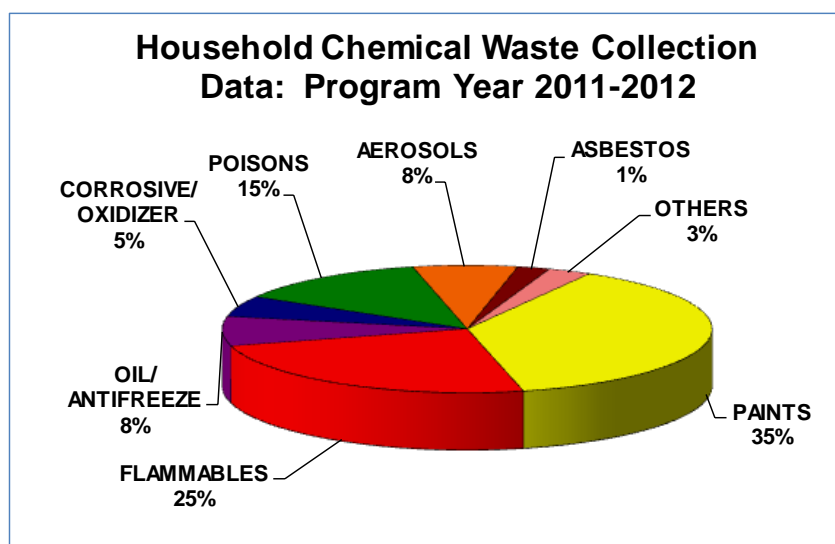
The Village of Port Barrington also operates a residential motor oil collection program. The Program is located at its Public Works Department and is similar to the Lake Zurich program. However, appointments to drop off your oil are required. Since becoming operational in mid-2007 approximately 1,080 gallons of oil have been collected.

The Lincolnshire Riverwoods Fire Protection District now collects HCW (on an appointment basis) at its Fire Station # 51. This HCW collection facility is located at 115 Schelter Road, Lincolnshire (pictured above). SWALCO secured operational permits from the IEPA and provided HCW specific training to the Fire District's fire



fighters. The District's fire fighters can now safely collect HCW from the residents served by the Fire District. HCW collected through this program is incorporated into our overall HCW Program. This program served approximately 95 residents in 2011-2012.

During the 2011-2012 season, 3,567 barrels (approximately 1.4 million pounds) of HCW were collected from households. The pie chart shows the breakdown of the types of HCW materials collected.



Pictured Above: Residents can drop off their used motor oil at the yellow shed at the Lake Zurich Public Works Department, year-round. In 2011-2012, 11,800 gallons of oil were collected and recycled from this program.

## SWALCO Staff

Walter Willis, Executive Director

Peter Adrian, Recycling Coordinator

Lorin Buchta, Office Manager

Steve Nelson, Household Chemical  
Waste Engineer

Merleanne Hiatt Rampale, Public  
Information and Education Director



SWALCO Office and HCW Facility  
in Gurnee, Illinois

## Contact the Agency

The Agency is located at 1311 N. Estes in Gurnee, Illinois. For more information about SWALCO's programs and services, please visit us online or call the SWALCO office at **847-336-9340**.

Visit us at **[swalco.org](http://swalco.org)** or visit **[recyclefirsttrashlast.org](http://recyclefirsttrashlast.org)** for:

- Recycling news, information and resources.
- Upcoming collections and events.
- Online A-Z Recycling Guide.
- Lake County, IL Curbside Recycling Guidelines and information on Recycling, Waste Reduction & Resource Recovery.
- Information & articles on how to live a more sustainable life.
- E-List Sign-up: You can sign up for our general E-list service announcements to receive occasional, news and information on upcoming events, and programs along with related information.
- Educators, Scout leaders, youth leaders and others can sign up for a separate E-list service for occasional information and announcements specifically for them.

Photos: Page 4 from top: Waukegan and North Chicago students learn about recycling and earth's natural resources; Students at Rockland School on Eco-Night; SWALCO attended Village of Wauconda's Public Works Open House; Merleanne Rampale from SWALCO presents Partners in Conservation Award to Lake County Forest Preserves staff Lynn Hepler, Jan Ward and Allison Frederick—SWALCO also presented the award to Lake County Stormwater Management Commission; Stevenson High School students and teachers proudly displaying their Earth Flag!; Page 5 from top: Zion-Benton Public Library staff throw the last shoe onto the pile before the big Round-up; Students at Beach Elementary participated in Reuse-A-Shoe & are making a difference; Bike Project ready to take off with their many bikes collected at SWALCO's annual Recycle-O-Rama event—bikes are donated to local families and children. Rain Barrel and Compost bin education and display at the May Sale at Independence Grove Forest Preserve.; Pete Adrian and Walter Willis with barrels ready for pick-up!; Page 7 top: Little Recycler—never too young!; Mayor Norris and Preservation Council member Louise Simonson from Riverwoods, with SWALCO Education Director at community event, promoting Recycle First, Trash Last; Ryan and Max—"stars" of a SWALCO video on recycling, will show you how to "Recycle in Every Room in the House" - check it out on You Tube! Page 7 bottom: Electronics collected at one of the many sites—SWALCO operates the largest electronics recycling collection program in the State of Illinois; Electronics were one of the many hard-to-recycle items residents brought to Recycle-O-Rama; SWALCO supplies recycling collection containers to members for community events.

**Attachment G**  
**IEPA Plan Update Form**





Illinois  
Environmental  
Protection Agency

Bureau of Land  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Box 19276  
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Print Form

## FIVE YEAR MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Agency has prepared this form to assist local governments with the five year updates of municipal waste (MW) plans. Although local governments may prepare and submit a more extensive document, the Agency will consider submission of this completed form to be the plan update required under the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (SWPRA).

Attach additional labeled pages as necessary.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Local Government:	<u>Lake County</u>		
Contact Person:	<u>Walter Willis, Executive Director, Solid Waste Agency of Lake County</u>		
Address:	<u>1311 North Estes Street</u>		
P.O. Box:	<u></u>		
City:	<u>Gurnee</u>	State: <u>IL</u>	Zip: <u>60031</u>
Telephone:	<u>(847) 336-9340 x 2</u>	Plan Adoption Date:	<u>9/12/89</u>
Re-Adoption Date:	<u>9/1/91</u>	Plan Update Due:	<u>11/9/14</u>

#### 1. Recommendation and Implementation Schedule Contained in the Adopted Plan

This information should be easily accessible in the plan's Executive Summary or Recommendations chapter. Briefly describe the recommendations and implementation schedule for each alternative in the adopted plan below.

##### a. Source Reduction

Refer to Section 4, page 4-3.

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##### b. Recycling and Reuse

Refer to Section 4, page 4-3 through 4-6.

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c. Combustion for Energy Recovery

The Lake County Plan does not recommend combustion technologies. However, alternative technologies that convert waste to energy through biological conversion are considered. Refer to Section 4, page 4-10.

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d. Combustion for Volume Reduction

The Lake County Plan does not recommend combustion technologies. However, alternative technologies that convert waste to energy through biological conversion are considered. Refer to Section 4, page 4-10.

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e. Disposal In Landfills

Refer to Section 4, page 4-6 through 4-8.

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2. **Current Plan Implementation Efforts**

a. Which recommendations in the adopted plan have been implemented?

Refer to Section 3, Table 3.1.

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Briefly describe which recommendations were not implemented and the reasons why these were not implemented.

Refer to Section 3, Table 3.1.

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b. Which recommendations in the adopted plan have been implemented according to the plan's schedule?

Briefly describe which recommendations were not implemented according to the adopted plan's schedule, and attach a revised implementation schedule.

Refer to Section 3, Table 3.1.

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3. **Recycling Program Status**

Because the Agency's annual landfill capacity report includes data on each adopted plan's recycling status, information on your recycling percentages is not being requested on this form. This will avoid duplication of efforts.

a. Has the program been implemented throughout the county or planning area:

☒ Yes      ☐ No

b. Has a recycling coordinator been designated to administer the program?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      If yes, when? 1991 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Does the program provide for separate collection and composting of leaves?

☒ Yes      ☐ No

d. Does the recycling program provide for public education and notification to foster understanding of and encourage compliance with the program?

☒ Yes      ☐ No

e. Does the recycling program include provisions for compliance, including incentives and penalties?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      If yes, please describe:

Lake County has implemented and enforces its Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance, a copy of which is available on the County's website. The ordinance identifies hauler requirements regarding recycling and contains penalties for violations of the ordinance. The 2014 Plan Update also contains recommendations of incentives for recycling, such as implementation of volume-based pricing and cart-based recycling (Section 4, page 4-4).

f. Does the program include provisions for recycling the collected materials, identifying potential markets for at least three materials, and promoting the use of products made from recovered or recycled materials among businesses, newspapers, and local governments?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      If yes, please describe:

The Lake County Solid Waste Hauling and Recycling Ordinance requires all haulers operating in the County to offer recycling collection services. In addition, SWALCO maintains a capacity agreement with Waste Management Recycle America, LLC to recycle any materials collected from SWALCO members and Lake County townships.

g. Provide any other pertinent details on the recycling program.

Refer to Section 3 of the 2014 Plan Update for a discussion of current program status. Refer to Section 4 of the 2014 Plan Update for a discussion of future program recommendations.

4. **Current Needs Assessment Information (optional)**

Depending upon the available resources, updated waste generation data, current municipal waste recycling and disposal information, and any other recent available data may be included; this information will not be required by the Agency.

- a. MW Generated per year: 1,107,817      ☒ Tons    ☐ Cubic Yards
- b. MW Generation Rate: 9.63      pcd (pounds/capita/day)
- c. MW Recycled/Year: 533,465      tons
- d. MW Incinerated/Year: 0      ☒ Tons    ☐ Cubic Yards
- e. MW Landfilled/Year 574,352      ☒ Tons    ☐ Cubic Yards

Time period for this information: 2013

5. **New Recommendations and Implementation Schedule**

Due to political, fiscal, or technological changes, a local government may choose to recommend different waste management options for the review plan. It should be noted, however, that the recycling program requirements of the SWPRA must be followed. Discuss any new recommendations included in the revised plan, and the implementation schedule to be followed.

Status of recommendations from the 2009 Plan Update is addressed in Section 3. Section 4 of the 2014 Plan Update contains all current recommendations.

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