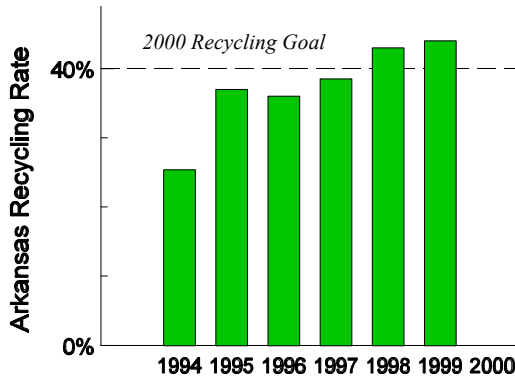




RECYCLING WORKS IN ARKANSAS

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
July 2000

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECYCLING

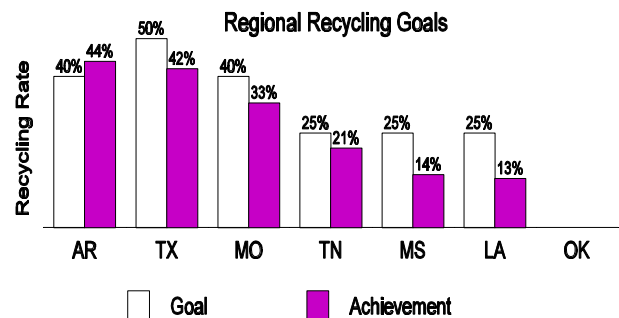


Arkansas exceeded its 2000 recycling goal in 1998 and continued to improve, with a 1999 recycling rate of nearly 44 percent. Traditional public and private recycling entities have taken the recycling lead over the years and still contribute the most to the state's recycling rate. However, a growing number of companies and organizations are beginning to see the value of recycling. These industries and non-profits provide new opportunities for recycling and waste reduction as we move into the new millennium.

THE GOAL

In 1991, the Arkansas Legislature proposed the goal that Arkansas recycle the equivalent of 40 percent of its 1991 waste stream by the year 2000. Act 749 of 1991 made it the policy of the state "to encourage and promote recycling in order to conserve natural resources, conserve energy and preserve landfill space."

Public and private entities have worked together since then to dramatically improve Arkansas' recycling infrastructure. Over the last six years, their efforts have paid off as recycling has increased by 70%! And, Arkansas' recycling goal achievement exceeds that of surrounding states.



RECYCLING BENEFITS

ARKANSAS

Recycling benefits Arkansas in many ways. Over the past six years, recycling has diverted more than 4.3 million tons of waste from Arkansas landfills - nearly 3500 pounds for every Arkansan! The environmental benefit of diverting so much waste from landfills is tremendous. Recycling preserves natural resources by reducing our dependence on virgin materials, saves energy by reducing the production requirements compared to making products from virgin materials, and extends the life of our landfills, allowing land to be used for other needs.

Printed on Recycled Paper



In 1999, Arkansas:

- Recycled 852,565 tons of waste, and
- Saved more than \$25 million in landfill disposal costs.

In all, more than 700 public-sector jobs have been created due to recycling, and the private sector supports about 4000 recycling jobs. These recycling employees interject salaries of about \$90 million into Arkansas' economy each year.

PARTNERS IN RECYCLING

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has worked diligently to facilitate cooperation among public and private recycling entities, and this cooperative effort has been the cornerstone of Arkansas' recycling success. Entities involved in this effort include other state agencies, regional solid waste management districts, counties and cities, businesses and industries, non-profit organizations, Keep Arkansas Beautiful and its affiliates, and recycling advocacy groups such as the Arkansas Recyclers Association and the Arkansas Recycling Coalition. This genuine cooperation has enabled Arkansas to reach its recycling goals without government mandates.

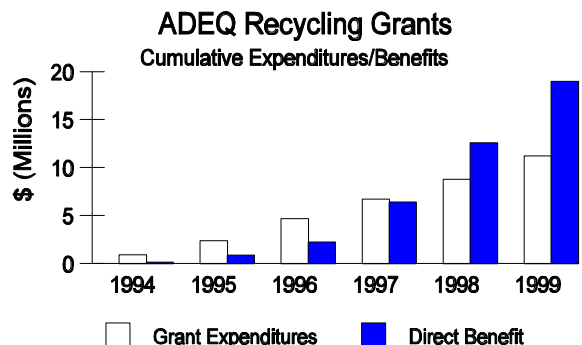
The ADEQ has provided direct technical assistance to help develop a recycling infrastructure capable of handling Arkansas' waste and partnered with the Arkansas Recycling Coalition to provide opportunities for recyclers to network and learn from each other. In addition, ADEQ has partnered with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service to educate citizens, encouraging recycling and promoting positive attitudes about recycling.

The state offers financial incentives in the form of tax credits to businesses that purchase recycling equipment, and ADEQ administers a Solid Waste Management and Recycling Grants Program to help communities develop local recycling programs.

RECYCLING GRANTS TO COMMUNITIES

Over the last six years, the Grants Program has provided nearly \$14.4 million to Arkansas communities. In 1999 alone, ADEQ awarded more than \$2.6 million for community recycling programs. Every Arkansas county has benefitted from the 553 grants issued through the program.

In 1999, the direct economic benefits from the recycling grants program continued to increase. Of the \$14.4 million granted, \$11.2 million has been expended and has returned a direct economic benefit of nearly \$19 million to the citizens of Arkansas. For each dollar expended by the program, citizens have realized a direct return of \$1.70 and 89 pounds of waste recycled.





ARKANSAS RECYCLED MATERIALS - 1999

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (tons)
Paper	377,839
Cardboard	281,156
Mixed Paper	51,183
White Ledger	7,241
Newspaper	18,008
Colored Ledger	960
Computer Paper	954
Magazines/phone books	631
Other Paper (hard white shavings, plastic coated, etc.)	17,706
Pallets and Other Wood Waste	150,054
Yard Waste	129,366
Metals	91,932
White Goods (discarded appliances, etc.)	50,845
Non-ferrous Metals	30,648
Oil Filters	1,313
Steel Cans	1,141
Plastics	46,868
Carpet Padding	15,500
Agricultural Containers	250
HDPE (High Density Polyethylene)	2,694
Agricultural Irrigation Pipe	4,375
LDPE (Low Density Polyethylene)	7,282
PET (Polyethylene)	1,200
Lead Acid Batteries	17,468
Other	37,170
Unclassified (teflon, fluorescent lamps, etc.)	27,717
Tires	7,425
Glass	1,874
Antifreeze	64
Rubber	573
Cooking oil	982
Textiles and Leather	409

TOTAL 852,565

Additionally, the following materials were recycled, but were not included as part of the recycling rate calculation, since these materials have not traditionally been landfilled:

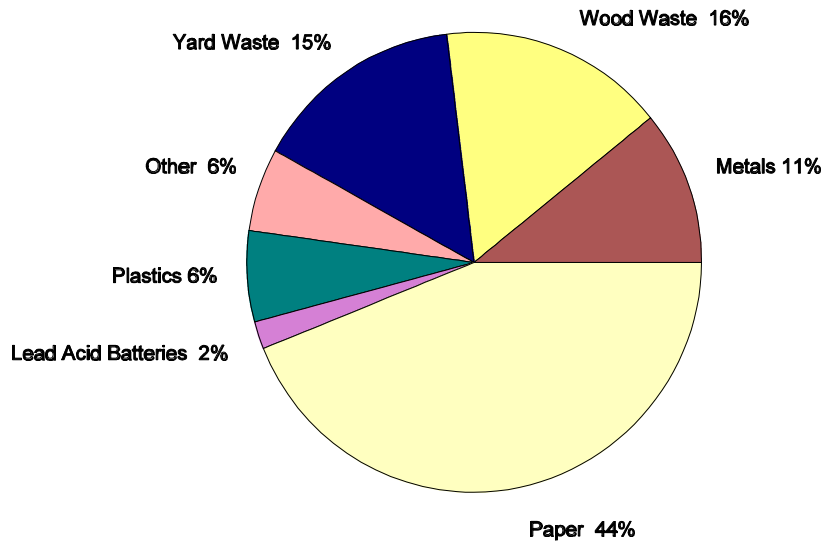
Other Recycled Materials	1,130,906
Ferrous Metals (Scrap Iron)	384,199
Fly Ash	365,242
Paper Mill Sludge	56,812
Used Motor Oil	19,371
Industrial Wood Wastes (Sawdust, Wood Scrap, etc.)	305,282

**All reported quantities were determined by direct survey of municipal, commercial and industrial recyclers.



TRADITIONAL RECYCLED WASTES (COUNTED IN CALCULATING ARKANSAS RECYCLING RATE)

852,552 Tons



NON-TRADITIONAL RECYCLED WASTES (NOT COUNTED IN CALCULATING ARKANSAS RECYCLING RATE)

1,130,906 tons

