



White River Regional Solid Waste Management District

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Ms. Susan Speake
A.D.E.Q. Office of Land Operations
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72118-5317

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TO: SS FILE KMB

Dear Susan:

Enclosed is the White River District's annual solid waste plan update for the period specified.

Please contact Jan or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sexton
Project Coordinator

/ss

Enclosure



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PLAN

Regional Solid Waste Management District	<u>Reporting Period</u>
White River RSWMD	September 1, 2016 – December 31, 2017

A. COLLECTION

1. Weekly curbside/roadside and/or drop-off collection services should be made available for all household solid waste for residential dwellings within the state by city, county or private collection.
 - a. Has the District achieved this state goal? Yes. The ten-county District is served by a network of local government collection services plus 44 private collection companies operating a fleet of 154 trucks during this reporting period. Within the District are eight (8) transfer stations and two class one landfills. Even in extremely rural areas where curbside collection is not financially feasible, low-cost public waste drop-off is available at local population centers no more than 30-40 minutes away.
 - b. If not, what is the District's target date to achieve this state goal? N/A
 - c. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? N/A
2. A minimum of semi-monthly **yard waste collection** services should be provided for all residential dwelling within the state. Collected yard wastes must be managed at a Class CY compost facility or an alternative approved pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §8-6-220 (b). Each district should include the schedule of implementation within its solid waste plan, beginning with the larger cities
 - a. Has the District achieved this state goal? No. The District's one municipality above 11,000 population operates a Class CY compost facility. One other municipality has just above 10,000, but the remainder are at or under 5,000 population. Fourteen communities provide yard waste programs. These small communities collect and chip wood waste for beneficial use locally, with leaves and clippings being composted and given away for mulch or as soil additive. This is not an achievable goal for rural, low population density areas, which comprise most of our service area.
 - b. What is the District's target date to achieve state goal? Ongoing.
 - c. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? The District supports composting through grants and will continue to educate citizens about backyard composting through free educational materials and through its website, www.WhiteRiverRecycles.org.
 - d. If completed, attach your schedule of implementation. Ongoing.
3. Collection services or a suitable alternative (transfer stations or community based drop-off locations) for **bulky items** should be made available for all residential dwellings within the state. Implementation of the program should be included in each district's plan and be based upon population.
 - a. Has the District achieved this state goal? Yes. Within the District's ten counties are three (3) class four landfills and eight (8) transfer stations. Larger municipalities offer this service on an on-going basis. City and county clean-up events are held in smaller municipalities and rural areas 1-2 times a year.
 - b. If not, what is the District's target date to achieve state goal? N/A
 - c. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? N/A

B. DISPOSAL

1. Evaluate the disposal capacity of permitted landfills. Establish a seven-year minimum of disposal capacity for each district. If a district has no existing Class 1 landfill or has a facility with less than seven years' capacity, it can partner with an adjoining district or neighboring state to offer low cost disposal for their residents.
 - a. How much disposal capacity is available in your District? Of the two class one landfills in the District, disposal capacities are listed as 24.2 years and 13.5 years per 2017 engineering reports. The District's three class four landfills have disposal capacities of 35.8, 25.7 and 210.0 years based on prior year utilization. (Source: AEIR reports for 2017 reporting year from ADEQ website.
 - b. If disposal capacity is under 7 years, what is the District's target date to achieve this state goal? N/A
 - c. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? N/A
2. Evaluate the waste stream in the geographical area of each district through an annual waste audit. Develop a business plan for the diversion and recycling of waste based on the audit results.
 - a. Has the District achieved this state goal? ? Due to limited industry in the District, the waste stream consists of mainly residential, retail, small business and institutional waste. The waste stream follows state and national MSW norms (see U.S. EPA figures). Larger and franchised businesses have taken advantage of the financial benefits of backhauling marketable materials (metals, plastics and cardboard) to reduce their waste. District education programs also include a business and industry focus. Industry specific needs are addressed on a one-on-one basis.
 - b. What is the District's target date to achieve this state goal? Ongoing.
 - c. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? The District will continue to work with communities and businesses toward reducing waste through green business practices and by incorporating recycling and composting where appropriate.
 - d. If completed, attach a copy of the business plan. N/A See 2.a. above.
3. Require districts to establish a household hazardous waste program (either permanent sites or collection events) within their boundaries. This action item is currently mandated by Ark. Code Ann. §8-6-714 (a)(1)(B)(ii) for districts that charge up to \$2 per ton under the authority of that same provision and is a goal for districts that do not access this fee.
 - a. Does your District access the \$2 fee under Ark. Code Ann. §8-6-714? No.
 - b. Has the District achieved this state goal or mandate? Yes. The District provides HHW services through its District-wide e-waste collection program, District-wide drug drop-off program and through technical assistance. The District web site (www.WhiteRiverRecycles.org) offers HHW information. One-on-one contacts through web site contact, e-mail and telephone are provided information on disposal and on best practices to reduce household hazardous waste.
 - c. What is the District's target date to achieve this state goal or mandate? Ongoing.
 - d. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? N/A

C. RECYCLING

1. All municipal waste recycling programs should evaluate the economic viability of accepting the following items: paper products including new print, cardboard, white office paper, mixed paper, magazines, junk mail catalogs, phone books, boxboard and chipboard; metals, both steel and aluminum cans; plastic - #1PET, #2 HDPE and others where possible; clear and colored glass (no window glass, glass ceramics, light bulbs or ovenware); and white goods (large residential appliances).
 - a. How many items does each of your recycling programs accept? Attach an addendum listing District recycling drop-off locations with the types of items accepted at each. The District does not operate recycling centers but provides grant and technical assistance to eight collection and shipping centers, two satellite centers, and twenty-one community drop-off locations. A breakout of centers is attached. All centers take the following at a minimum: paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, aluminum and tin cans. Several also take textiles, glass, and waste oil. White goods are either shipped to or directed to area metal salvage operations in the District.
 - b. What recyclable materials has the District evaluated for accepting in this reporting period? Industrial/institutional and rigid plastics are evaluated based on type, quality and volume.
 - c. What recyclable materials has the District started accepting this reporting period that it didn't accept before this reporting period? Glass is now being accepted in Searcy's recycling program. Higher quality paper grades are being considered for premium markets.
 - d. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? Achieved but actions are ongoing.
2. All incorporated cities with a population of 5,000 or more will offer residential curbside recycling. Communities of this size must work with the districts to make available **convenient opportunities** for commercial and multi-family recycling. A minimum of semimonthly collection services or a suitable alternative system (e.g. transfer stations) for recyclable material collection should be made available for all residential dwellings within the state. Cities should be required to implement a curbside recycling program, beginning with the most populated cities and eventually including cities of all sizes. The implementation schedule should become part of each districts plan.
 - a. Has the District achieved any part of this state goal? **Yes.** Seven District cities and one county-wide curbside program have been operational for some time. One city of just over 5,000 has already expanded their program from one to multiple collection locations and services. Seven recycling centers, two satellite centers, and twenty-one community drop-off recycling programs are in operation.
 - b. How many of cities in your district offer residential curbside recycling? Seven plus one county-wide.
 - c. What is the District's target date to achieve the state goal listed above (residential curbside recycling, commercial and multi-family recycling, and semimonthly collection services for recyclable material collection)? The District continues to work with local programs to sustain and strengthen recycling programs. Multi-family unit recycling opportunities are included in some programs already but nearby drop-off recycling is also available as an alternative.
 - d. What action will you implement to achieve your target date? This is on-going in the District.
 - e. Attach an implementation schedule. N/A
3. Districts will encourage the development and implementation of public venue/special event recycling programs. Districts will offer guidance for best management practices, education assistance and information, along with collection and marketing strategies for public venue facilities and special events. Districts will discourage use of non-recyclable items like Styrofoam cups.
 - a. Has the District achieved any part of this state goal? **Yes.** The District operates a special event recycling trailer for public venue and outdoor events. Because of demand, a second is being ordered in 2018. Staff works with local governments and chambers of commerce to encourage recycling at public events and provides the trailer, bottle/can collection bins and bags at no cost.
 - b. What is the District's target date to achieve this state goal? Achieved. Ongoing.
 - c. What actions will you implement to achieve your target date? N/A

D. SPECIAL RECOVERABLE MATERIALS

1. Encourage districts to exercise due diligence in the selection, use and operation of recycling and disposal facilities.
 - a. Has the District achieved any part of this state goal? **Yes.** Long term sustainability of recycling programs requires careful financial planning and maximizing of operating efficiencies. The recycling processing and shipping centers are the hub of district recycling programs with the smaller community recycling programs feeding materials into them. Recycling in rural areas could not operate long term any other way. Both the recycling and disposal facilities in this area are well established and have operated for a number of years.
 - b. What is the District's target date to achieve this state goal? This goal has been achieved.
 - c. What action will you implement to achieve your target date? N/A
2. Develop an illegal dump program that provides additional resources to identify and remediate illegal dumps, while providing education and enforcement to prevent future dumping.
 - a. Does the District have an illegal dump program? **Yes.**
 - b. Explain the education and enforcement instituted by the District to prevent future dumping. The District has two illegal dump control officers (licensed in 2012) who work in partnership with ADEQ inspectors, local officials and community leaders in the mostly rural District service area. The District provides litter and illegal dumping prevention education services to communities, provides brochures on open trash burning, and serves as an information service for citizen inquiries both by telephone and from web site contacts.
 - c. Explain the additional resources the District provides to identify and remediate illegal dumps. No resources have been made available to the District for this purpose. Staff partners with local government to work with property owners to remediate illegal dumps sites on private property.
 - d. Does the District employ or partner with a county within the District that employs an illegal dumps control officer? District illegal dump control officers partner with county officials, area law enforcement and ADEQ area inspectors to control illegal dumping.

E. EDUCATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Every regional solid waste management district should have an updated, accurate website (or webpages on a partner's website) that provides citizens easy-to-use access to information about recycling, composting, waste reduction and waste management services in their communities.

Information should include which materials are accepted, days and hours of operation, physical location, how materials are collected/accepted and contact information for further questions. The districts are to ensure that city and county recycling/diversion programs are financially sustainable and are using best management practices.

- a. Does the district have a website, and if so, what is the address? Yes.
www.WhiteRiverRecycles.org.
- b. Does the district have a webpage on a partner's website, and if so, what is the address?
We are also linked to the White River Planning and Development District web site:
www.wrpdd.org.
- c. If no to both questions above, what is the District's target date to achieve this mandate?
N/A

2. Districts should develop partnerships within communities to improve information dissemination. Solid waste districts and individual waste management entities (cities, counties, designated recycling collection centers, etc.) should use social media to increase awareness of waste management methods and opportunities.

- a. List the methods in which you disseminate information to the public. The District has launched a business Facebook, also named White River Recycles. Other methods include the District web site, billboards in high traffic areas, the electronic newsletter "Environmental Education E-News", printable brochures, teacher training, free student materials, news releases, radio PSAs, semi-annual area-wide forums, and presentations to schools, civic and community groups.
- b. List partnerships formed with the District. Though no written partnerships exist, the District is active with chambers of commerce, civic and community groups, and local government and community leaders.
- c. List examples of social media utilized. The District has launched a business Facebook, White River Recycles in addition to staff Facebook accounts.

F. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

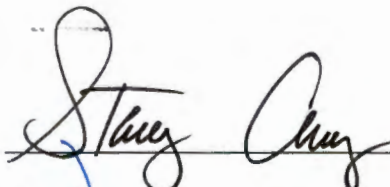
The new waste tire law, Act 317 effective 1/1/2018, presents a serious challenge to the ability of the District to continue providing its present level of service and to the tire program's financial stability. The District's goal is to continue its waste tire program services and to remain a financially viable program. The District will work with tire dealers and with the State to help resolve numerous problems that have resulted from the new law. Another District goal is to reduce backlogs of electronic waste in 2018 and 2019 prior to state support of that program ending in 2020 (Act 624 effective 1/1/2018), leaving an uncertain future for responsible electronic waste disposal. The District will continue to provide District recycling centers technical and financial assistance for long term sustainability. Expansion of the District's special event recycling program is planned with the addition of another trailer to the program. The District will continue to educate, encourage and assist communities in establishing and following best practices in solid waste management.

The District oversees a District-wide waste tire collection, processing and disposal program.

The District has a comprehensive, ten-county electronic waste collection network that includes eight processing and shipping centers, three satellite centers, and several community drop-off programs. Additionally, a fleet of eight trailers is used year round for special collection events in the District.

The District has in place, through a partnership with local law enforcement, a year round, full-time drug drop-off program at numerous locations in all ten counties. This same partnership is beneficial in locating and dealing with illegal dumping issues.

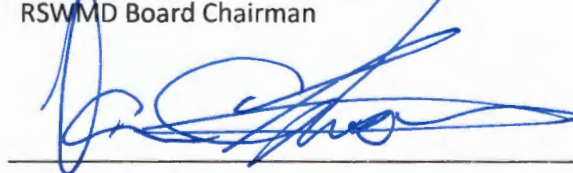
The District promotes and serves as a ten-county information service for solid waste needs in response to contacts through its web site (WhiteRiverRecycles.org), billboards and Facebook.



RSWMD Board Chairman

1-12-18

Date



RSWMD Director

1-19-18

Date