

Solid Waste Management Plan 5-Year Update

Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act

- Required initial plan development by March 1, 1991
- Requires 5-year updates to the plan thereafter
- Qualifies county government and businesses for state grants

Planning Committee

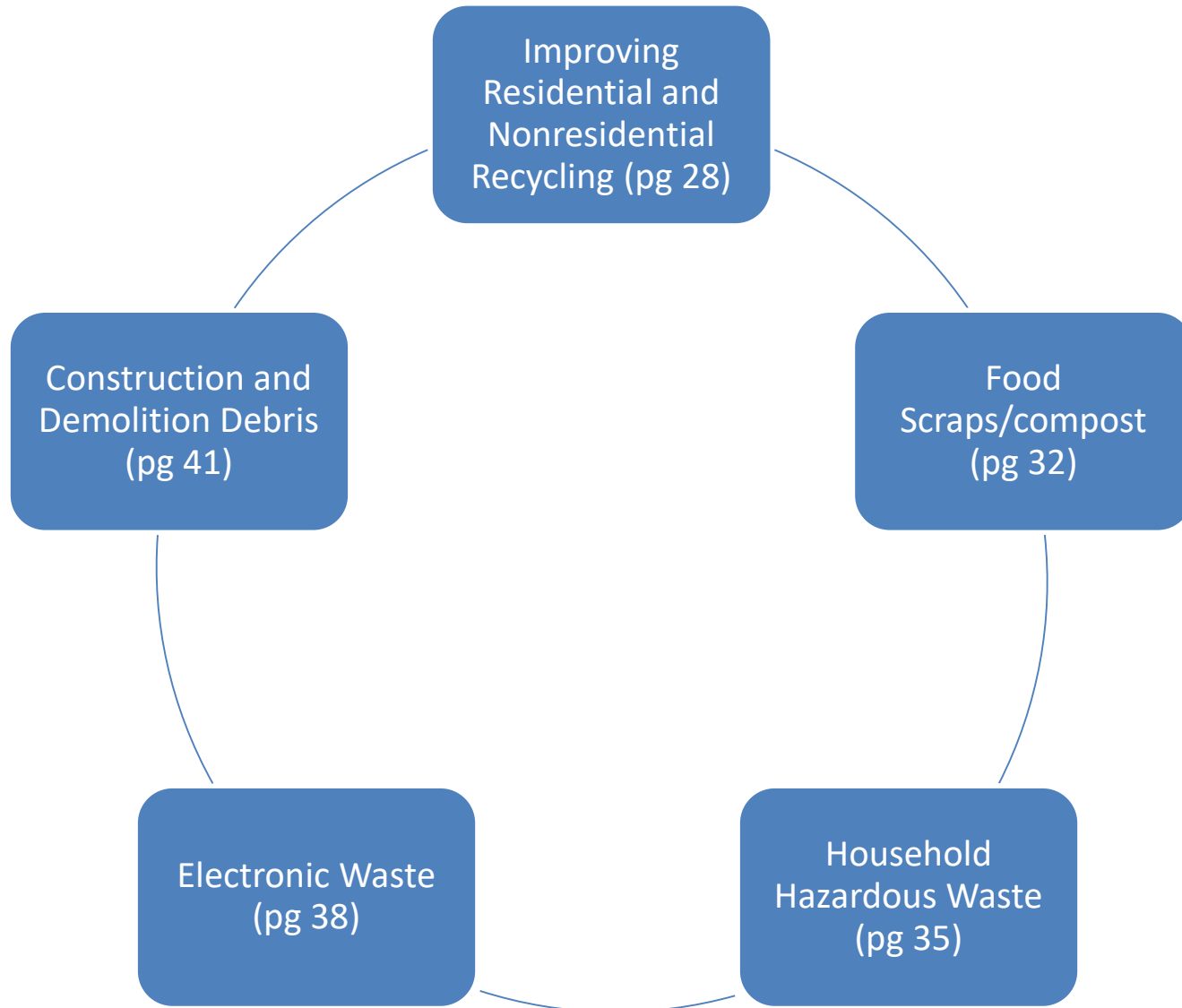
Required by state law for the original plan

Required by County Solid Waste and Recycling Ordinance

Diverse professional and civic backgrounds

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Sarah Cardona	Project Manager with Metropolitan Planning Council
Kristi DeLaurentiis	Executive Director of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association (SSMMA)
Richard Golf	Managing Partner for Lakeshore Recycling Systems
Neil James	Executive Director of West Cook County Solid Waste Agency (WCCSWA)
Karen Rozmus	Suburban Cook County Resident, Former Waste Reduction Manager for the Village of Oak Park
Henrietta Saunders	Suburban Cook County Resident, Chair of the Natural Resources Commission for the Village of Glenview, Treasurer of the League of Women Voters of the United States, and serves on the Delta Institute Board
Elaine Strunk	Global Sustainability Director at McDonalds
Dave Van Vooren	Executive Director of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC)

Plan Focus Areas



Takeaways

The last remaining landfill in Cook County closed since the last plan update

Recommendation for County green purchasing strategy, includes food scrap reduction, promotion of end markets for compost

Contamination continues to be a barrier to increased diversion

Several municipalities still do not offer automatic curbside recycling to residents

Additional regulation is not a focus of the plan

By the Numbers

In 2016 Suburban Cook County Residents generated:

- 1.9 lbs. of recyclable material per household per day
- 8.2 lbs. of waste per household per day.

2016 Recycling Rate

- 30% Suburban Cook County
- 34% Nationally

Cook County Demolition Debris Diversion Rate:

- 78% in 2012
- 95% in 2015

Food Waste

- Nationally it is estimated that each person wastes 400 pounds of food every year.
- In Cook County over 760,000 residents are food insecure, 30% of whom live in suburban Cook County.

Recycling

- Recyclables such as metal, plastic, paper, and glass represent 44.6% of the residential municipal solid waste stream in Cook County.
- Despite the recyclability of these materials, 42.5% of landfilled materials in urban areas of Illinois are paper, glass, metal, and plastics.

of Building Material

Reuse Centers:

(providing end market to construction and demolition materials)

- 6 in 2006
- 15 in 2017

Plan Goals and Sample Recommendations

Goal Statement 1:
Increase access to and participation in MSW curbside recycling programs

- Help small or underperforming communities to increase curbside recycling through joint contracting, or other procurement assistance.
- Develop a benchmark for waste performance for all County facilities by requiring waste haulers to produce hauler reports containing amount of material disposed and recycled

Goal Statement 2:
Decrease contamination of recycled materials.

- Establish working group with stakeholders to create an accurate list of recyclable products and a simple unified message.
- Develop and produce a marketing campaign, based on work with waste haulers, with a focus on one or two major recycling issues per year for effective public education

Plan Goals and Sample Recommendations

Goal Statement 3:

Improve diversion rate for industrial/commercial/institutional waste generators.

- Identify barriers to increased diversion rates for industry/commercial and institutional waste generators through a voluntary program. (program would solicit waste hauling reports, request waste audits and interviews from a sample of businesses)

Goal Statement 4:

Increase diversion of organics and food waste from landfills.

- Model end market use of compost for municipalities and establish guidelines for finished compost in county road/landscape projects where applicable.
- Establish requirements for food waste reduction in vendor contracts for Cook County facilities

Plan Goals and Sample Recommendations

Goal Statement 5:

Increase household hazardous waste diversion.

- Increase HHW collection by adding more permanent sites and encouraging local municipalities to include HHW collection in their waste hauling contracts.
- Reduce the use of toxic chemicals in the maintenance of Cook County facilities

Goal Statement 6:

Increase e-waste diversion.

- Establish permanent collection sites for recyclable electronics in accordance with the Consumer Electronics Recycling Act.
- Develop a marketing campaign to educate residents on proper e-waste disposal.

Plan Goals and Sample Recommendations

Goal Statement 7:
Promote Source
Reduction and Reuse.

- Develop a green purchasing strategy for the County and develop model procurement documents for municipalities and other agencies.
- Adopt stronger procurement practices by the County that promote reused and reusable goods and reduce packaging/life cycle costs. Develop further strategies to reduce operational waste at County facilities such as printing policies.

Goal Statement 8:
Improve construction and
demolition debris
diversion.

- Create and consistently use clear definitions of recycling and reuse through all communication channels with demolition contractors.
- Evaluate potential for construction and demolition contractor's registration programs through which Cook County would ensure contractors had full knowledge of Cook County Demolition Debris Diversion Ordinance

Next Steps

- Board Schedule and Materials
- Outreach and Comments