

Wabash County SWMD Resident Enthusiasm

In 2011 when Jen Rankin became the Director for the Wabash County SWMD, residential participation and perception of the district was at a low with considerable resistance to the program overall. From 2010 to 2011 the participation rate had declined by 16 percent. Through dedication of Jen and her staff, residents have come around full circle. How did the district succeed? They reached out to every resident they could, offered education presentations to civic groups and tours of their facility to the general public. Direct mailings were sent to businesses and industries as well. One year later, as of September 2013, the participation rate had increased 44.6 percent.

Another success that is directly related to the buy-in of residents is a steady decline in illegal dump sites, particularly of waste tires. This past spring two major offenders willingly recycled 7,148 lbs. of tires and are now regular program participants!

