

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Solid Waste Management Fund Recycling Grants 2020 Annual Report

July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Office of Program Support
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT
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The Recycling, Education, and Quality Assurance Section within the Office of Program Support provides financial and technical assistance to develop recycling activities through two means: the solid waste management fund (IC 13-20-22-2), and the Recycling Market Development Program (RMDP) (IC 4-23-5.5-14). The state solid waste management fund (SWMF) is established to provide money in part for grants for the promotion of recycling, waste reduction, management of yard waste, and household hazardous waste source reduction or recycling. Previous recycling grants offered through the SWMF were suspended in 2008. As such, the Community Recycling Grant Program (CRGP) was developed and launched in 2019 to fulfill the goal of the SWMF. The CRGP complements the RMDP, which focuses on recycling projects that further market development, job creation, and economic stability.

The CRGP aims to assist communities' efforts to increase recycling and waste reduction by working with solid waste management districts (SWMDs), counties, municipalities, schools, and nonprofit organizations located in Indiana. Projects awarded funding through the CRGP accomplish at least one of the following:

- 1. Start or expand a recycling, source reduction, reuse, buy-recycled, or composting program.
- 2. Offer a new service, collect a new material, and/or serve a new area through the establishment of a new permanent service.
- 3. Improve efficiency and sustainability over current program practices through increased volumes of materials collected, better processing of materials, cost savings, and resource conservation.

Funding for the CRGP and RMDP comes from the solid waste management fee (IC 13-20-22-1). The fee consists of \$0.50 per ton charge on solid waste, which includes municipal solid waste (MSW), non-MSW, as well as construction and demolition debris (C&D) for final disposal at Indiana MSW landfills and incinerators. According to statute, the revenues are evenly deposited into the solid waste management fund (SWMF) and the recycling promotion and assistance fund



(RPAF). Total revenue received for the Solid Waste Management Fund for FY 2020 was \$2,432,126.

A total of \$529,276.79 was awarded for grants through the Community Recycling Grant Program in FY 2020, while a total of \$1,368,940.82 was awarded to grants from the Recycling Market Development Program. The CRGP funding has gone to 34 projects, enabling communities to begin or expand their recycling education, collection, and processing. The projects are spread across 30 counties, shown on the map below.

The following 34 Indiana organizations received grant funding totaling \$529,276.79 to expand recycling in Indiana:

- Allen County Department of Environmental Management, Allen County: \$5,000 towards the
 purchase of household battery recycling containers, which will allow county residents to collect
 up to 5 pounds of batteries per month to bring into one of seven hardware stores for proper
 disposal service.
- **Brown County SWMD, Brown County:** \$18,761 towards a forklift for increased processing of goods such as plastics, scrap metals, cardboard, glass, light bulbs, tires, electronics, batteries, office paper, books, magazines, electrical wiring, appliances and newspapers.

- City of Angola Wastewater Treatment Plant, Steuben County: \$50,000 towards a windrow
 compost turner and windrow fabric roller to increase the capacity of the existing biosolids/yard
 waste composting operation. The utility will complete multiple improvements to its composting
 operation, including a covered storage and distribution that will allow it to increase compost
 capacity by an estimated 100%.
- City of Elwood, Madison County: \$9,992 to expands its curbside recycling pickup from one day a week to three days a week. In 2018 the city provided service to 159 households which grew to 179 households in 2019. Through an intense promotional effort involving social and print media, the city looks to expand that number to 250 or more.
- City of Indianapolis, Marion County: \$49,835 towards the purchase of three recycling boxes, one additional household hazardous waste receptacle, educational signage at drop-off sites and development of marketing material that focuses on diversion and reduction. The additional receptacles will allow for increased collection, and the educational materials will improve residents' recycling behavior.
- **City of Portage Marina, Porter County**: \$745.44 to purchase and place six recycling containers and educational signage at locations throughout the Marina.
- City of Rising Sun, Ohio County: \$34,844 for a new Debris Collector that will serve a community of 2144 people and aid in the necessary collection, recycling and composting of yard waste. The City's Street Department has daily yard waste collection responsibilities from early October through mid-December and on an as needed basis throughout the year.
- Clark County Recycling District: \$6,077 towards an educational direct mailer to increase residential participation and reduce contamination in the collection of: recycling, household hazardous waste, and electronics.
- **Culver Community School, Marshall County:** \$817.43 for the purchase of bins for the school to be able to collect recyclables. The project includes an education component for students to learn about recycling through STEM classes.
- **Dearborn County SWMD**: \$5,242 to purchase recycling containers for distribution to the three high schools in Dearborn County, as well as advertising and social media promotions associated with the containers.
- Dubois County SWMD: \$5,558 to introduce latex paint recycling at the SWMD Process Center
 which cannot currently recycle latex paint, and introduce a public small electronic device
 recycling program in the five county libraries to dissuade small electronics from illegally being
 put in the trash.
- **Elkhart High School, Elkhart County**: \$1,200 towards the purchase of recycling receptacles to be placed next to every trash receptacle in the school. This will increase the number of recyclables being diverted from landfill, and the associated educational digital and print media will ensure the receptacles are used appropriately.
- Franklin Central High School, Marion County: \$622.57 to purchase 147 recycling bins in order to expand the recycling program to collect plastic as well as paper. The project includes an educational component to involve students and staff.
- **Gibson County SWMD**: \$2,730 for the purchase of plastic and aluminum collection receptacles to be placed in county buildings and at the county fair and other events, to allow county employees and the public to recycle those materials.
- Indy Hunger Network, Marion County: \$20,000 to increase the pounds of food donated in 2020 by creating and distributing educational materials to raise awareness about the existence and

benefits of the Food Drop program. The Food Drop program redirects rejected loads of food away from landfills to a statewide network of food banks, food pantries, warehouses, and other nonprofit hunger relief organizations. These materials will be posted at truck stops and travel centers throughout Indiana in order to reach the trucking industry that transports food.

- Inspire Academy, Delaware County: \$875 to purchase dual stream classroom recycling containers, as well as recycling and composting containers for the cafeteria. Signage will also be created and posted by the school's recycling team to engage students and staff.
- **Jay County SWMD**: \$2,324 towards the purchase of equipment to safely crush and contain the mercury vapors from CFL lightbulbs. This will allow the district to accept a new item for recycling, and the crushed bulbs will be sent to a recycling center to harvest the glass, metals, and mercury.
- Lawrence County SWMD: \$13,242 towards the purchase of three trailers to make recycling available in the City of Mitchell. The trailers will collect plastic, paper, glass, aluminum, and cardboard, and the site will be staffed to prevent contamination issues.
- Miami County SWMD: \$2,765.72 for the purchase of signage for eleven recycling drop off sites throughout the county, in order to decrease contaminated recyclables being sent to landfill.
- Monroe County SWMD: \$5,865 to develop advertising and promotional campaigns to increase awareness of, and participation in, a food waste collection program initiated in 2019. The program is a public/private partnership between the District and Green Camino, Inc. In 2020 the program will expand to all the District recycling facilities to increase waste diversion of food and other organic wastes. The advertising campaign will use traditional and new media platforms to reach all demographics of the county population to ensure the program's success and expansion.
- **Newfields, Marion County**: \$10,000 for the purchase of five sets of teak trash and recycling receptacles for the outdoor portion of the campus, as well as signs for existing receptacles. This will provide recycling options for visitors to the outdoor areas of Newfields where none were offered, and will be especially useful during the large outdoor events the site hosts.
- Opportunity Enterprises, Porter County: \$50,000 towards expanding the SecureShred program to offer electronics recycling in addition to paper shredding. The SecureShred program serves business customers in seven Northwest Indiana counties. The expansion will offer increased job opportunities to adults with disabilities, who will be trained on how to dismantle electronic devices for processing.
- Perry County Recycling District: \$1,774 towards 95-gallon wheeled carts to initiate a recycling
 program at a low-income apartment complex, and to offer to other housing complexes or
 businesses in the future.
- Posey County SWMD: \$5,465 towards educational materials focused on household hazardous
 waste and recycling. The district currently hosts ten tox-away days per year and will increase
 volumes collected through education and advertising.
- RecycleForce, Marion County: \$48,430 towards the modification of an e-waste shredder to be able to shred a greater variety of items composed mainly of plastic. RecycleForce has partnered with Brightmark Energy to provide mixed shredded plastic as feedstock for its new plastic processing facility. These modifications will allow RecycleForce to shredded more plastic items and help its Indiana customers stop sending plastic to landfills.

- Shelby County SWMD: \$8,046 to create and provide a resource guide to all Shelby County
 households. The guide will provide necessary information of what items can be recycled or
 reused along with providing the location to take their items for proper recycling/reuse, and
 information on other services the district offers. By educating the public with the resource
 guide, collection totals of recyclables and household hazardous waste will increase and will
 divert the material from the landfill.
- **South Shore Clean Cities, Lake County**: \$49,342 towards a cart tagging program that will improve recycling education on eligible recyclables and contamination. The materials collected will be turned into renewable sulfur diesel fuel.
- Southeastern Indiana SWMD, Jefferson County: \$33,226 towards the purchase of a baler, allowing processing of recyclables to keep up with the amount of material being accepted, increasing the district's efficiency.
- Spencer Elementary, Owen County: \$1,966 to purchase an enclosed trailer for transporting recyclable materials on a weekly basis from three schools in the town of Spencer. The community does not have a recycling center so materials will be transported for disposal in the town of Ellettsville.
- **Starke County SWMD**: \$7,750 for promotional items such as reusable shopping totes, straws, and tableware. The project will promote and educate on sustainable choices, reuse, reduction, and recycling through information on the handouts.
- Tippecanoe County SWMD: \$1,854 to decrease contamination in the recycling stream through
 the development of an education and outreach campaign. The project will include an audit of
 recycling drop-off bins before and after the campaign as an evaluation.
- Town of Newburgh, Warrick County: \$40,000 to update 35 trash-only receptables to include recycling, purchase two stand-alone recycling receptacles, and purchase four trash & recycling receptacles. Each of these receptables will be placed in public locations such as county buildings and parks to increase recycling by county residents and employees.
- Western Primary School, Howard County: \$32,425 for the purchase of equipment for
 playground, namely a rubberized ground covering made from recycled content. The playground
 will be accessible for students with disabilities and provide a learning opportunity for students
 to engage with recycled materials daily.
- WUR SWMD, Wayne County: \$2,500 towards recycling receptacles, educational posters, a composting bin, and promotional banners, to be used amongst county high schools. The project includes an intensive educational component, with 2,500 students receiving recycling education. The program will focus on recycling plastic bottles, reducing food waste, and composting.

