



Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Program Webinar



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External Partner Services

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

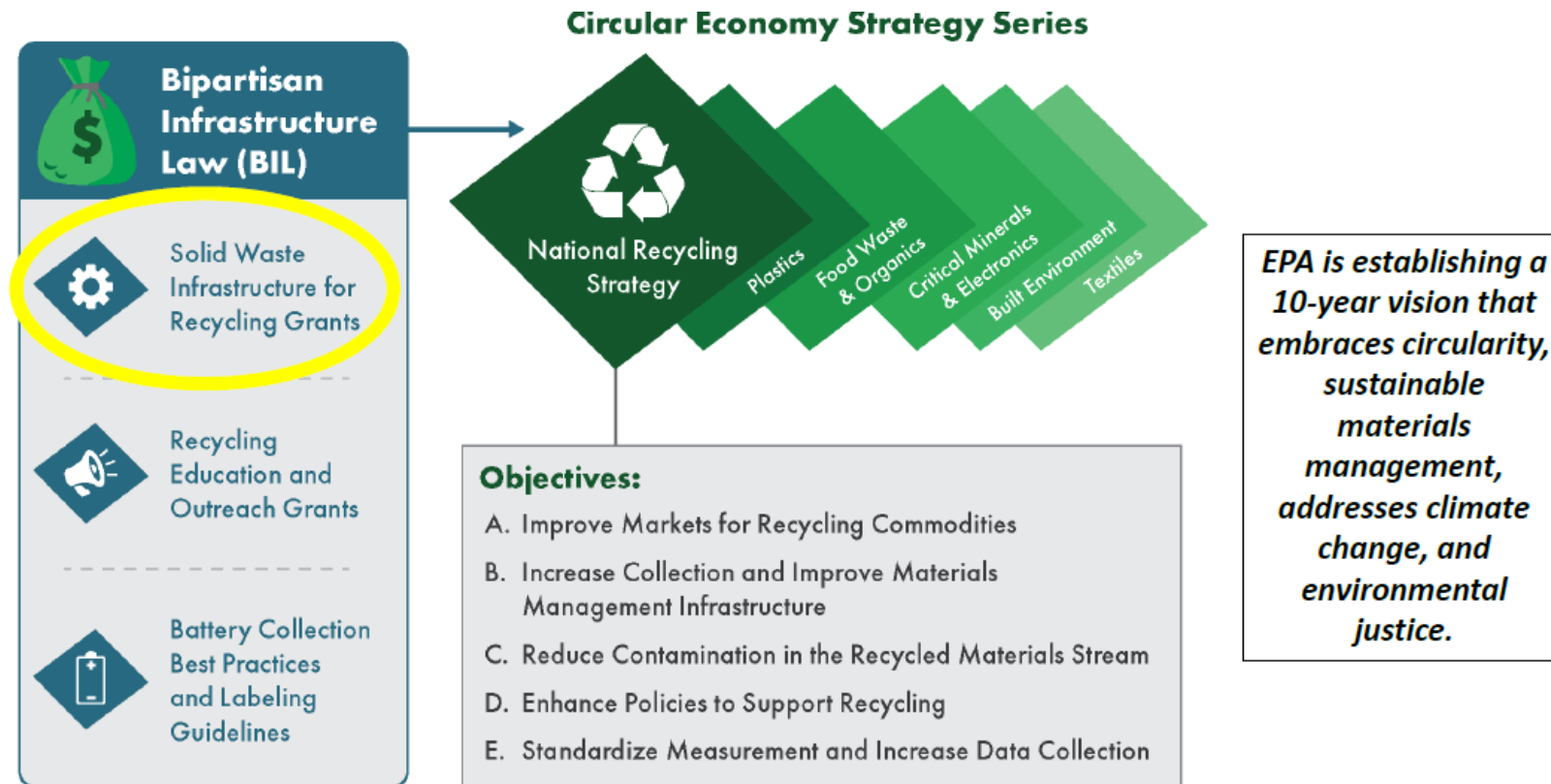


Agenda

- Overview of IDEM's SWIFR Program
- Program Purpose
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- Eligible vs Ineligible Costs
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Overview of IDEM's SWIFR Program

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received \$572,065 from the U.S. EPA's Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Program to support our statewide recycling and food-waste reduction goals.



Program Purpose

IDEM's SWIFR pass-through funding supports local governments and Solid Waste Management Districts in creating or updating local Materials Management Plans that align with statewide guidance and addressing the specific needs of each district or locality.

Ability to begin upon award and finish within **18 months**.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible Applicants: Solid Waste Management Districts, Counties & Municipalities

Requirements for Repeat Applicants:

- No unresolved compliance issues (overdue reports, missing documentation, refunds owed).
- No more than two open grants under IDEM recycling programs (Community Recycling Grant Program or Recycling Market Development Program) at time of application.

SAM Registration

- Applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).
- Full SAM registration not required to apply but must be active before receiving funds. Ensure legal name and banking information match IRS and UEI records. Save screenshot/PDF of “Active” status and submit it with the application.
- IDEM must verify:
 - Valid UEI
 - Active SAM registration
 - No suspension/debarment

Eligible vs. Ineligible Costs

Maximum Award: Up to \$20,000 for the development of a Local Materials Management Plan. No match required, though leveraging funds is strongly recommended.

Eligible Costs:

- Professional Fees
- Data gathering, analysis and studies
- Supplies for plan development
- Public outreach and engagement materials

Ineligible Costs:

- Equipment or construction
- Salaries or ongoing program costs
- Recycling contracts or maintenance
- Computer hardware/software
- Food, beverages, party supplies, gift cards
- Grant administration

Application Process

Log in through the Access Indiana portal so you can save your progress.

Select “ Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grant Program Application”

Recommend: composing all narrative application questions before starting the online application.

Recommend: gathering all required documents before starting the online application.

Ensure to name each file according to its document type using the required format (e.g., OrganizationName_Budget.pdf) in the correct section.

Section 1- 6 required contact information, financial, state/ federal identifications & applicable permits of the organization

Section 7-9 includes narrative questions and documentation requirements.

Review your entries carefully to ensure nothing is missing.

Submit the online application no later than the deadline **September 14, 2026**

Technical assistance available until **4:00 p.m. EST** on deadline day.

Application Questions: How To Answer Each Question + Tips To Improve Competitiveness

SECTION A : Mission & Alignment

- State your mission clearly and connect it directly to the SWIFR project.
- Highlight core organizational values and existing recycling or outreach work.
- Show how the project supports long-term strategy and expands your impact.

SECTION B: Current Infrastructure

- Describe your waste/recycling infrastructure and major challenges.
- Use specifics (equipment, capacity, sites).
- Show how improvements will increase diversion, reduce contamination, or improve access.

SECTION C: Collaboration

- Identify key partners (businesses, producers, consumers).
- Explain engagement methods and how collaboration strengthens diversion efforts.
- Highlight plans for outreach and measurable results.

SECTION D: Circular Economy Growth

- Show how your project keeps materials in use (reuse, repair, recycling).
- Identify local markets and economic benefits.
- Demonstrate how your plan supports Indiana's circular economy.

SECTION E: Statewide 50% Recycling Goal

- Provide projected diversion increases (tonnage or participation).
- Explain how outreach reduces contamination and improves recovery.
- Highlight partnerships that support reporting and engagement.

SECTION F: Data & Performance

- Describe tools and methods used for tracking materials.
- Identify current data gaps.
- Show how the updated MMP will strengthen measurement, and reporting.

SECTION G : Education & Outreach

- Explain how you will make recycling information clear and actionable.
- Identify outreach tools and partners.
- Describe how success will be measured (participation, contamination reduction).

SECTION H: Resident Issues

- Define specific community challenges (access, contamination, unclear rules).
- Show how the project addresses local needs and improves services.

SECTION I–J: Budget & Cost Breakdown

- Align every cost with a project task.
- Include soft costs and ensure consistency across all sections
- Identify match or in-kind support when available.

SECTION K: Alternative Funding

- Explain why SWIFR is the most suitable funding source
- Note any other funding considered and how match funds complement the project, if applicable.

SECTION L: Project Area

- Describe the geographic area served and why it was chosen.
- Highlight population characteristics, access gaps, and infrastructure relevance

SECTION M: Implementation & Updates

- Identify immediate next steps and responsible staff.
- Outline progress benchmarks and update frequency.
- Explain how stakeholder feedback will inform ongoing improvements.

Required Documents

Before submitting, ensure all required uploads are included in Sec. 8:

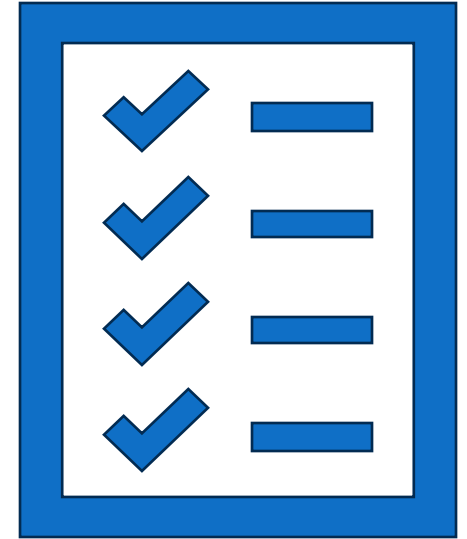
- Quotes for professional services.
- Latest organizational financial statement.
- Clerk/Financial Officer match funding letter (if applicable).
- Executive Director letter of support + plan implementation commitment.
- Labeled color maps with markers, legends, and boundaries.
- Detailed budget narrative & Budget sheet (cost breakdown).
- Any supporting documents referenced in the narrative.

Pro Tip: Missing attachments may disqualify applicants—double-check everything before submission!

Evaluation Criteria

Applications reviewed based on:

- Completeness and adherence to application guidelines
- Project sustainability
- Potential to increase **waste diversion**
- Applicant's past performance & compliance
- Demonstrated financial need
- Ability of the project to meet its stated goals and serve as a model for similar efforts
- Positive economic and environmental impacts at the local, regional, or statewide level
- Ability to begin upon award and finish within **18 months**



Statewide Goals & Local Alignment

Local planning efforts should build upon the state's three overarching goals



(1) Advancing recycling and waste diversion



(2) Supporting source reduction,



(3) Strengthening education and outreach



While considering infrastructure as the enabling factor that supports these goals.

Districts and local governments are encouraged to set additional goals that reflect local priorities and ambitions

Components of a Local Materials Management Plan

Completed plans should:

- Detail the county's/municipality's waste and materials management infrastructure(existing and new).
- Define county/municipality or regional needs, goals, and identify possible areas of growth.
- Provide methodology for data collection and reporting.
- Encourage collaboration through partnerships to manage materials that are generated.
- Help the state increase recycling rates.
- Promote economic growth in Indiana through waste management practices.

Consideration for Aligning Local Plans

To stay aligned with the statewide framework while meeting the needs of the district, the following approaches may be considered when developing or updating local plans:

Map local objectives to the three overarching statewide goals: Consider how local objectives align with state goals to expand recycling and waste diversion, support source reduction, and strengthen education and outreach. Recognize that infrastructure is an enabling factor that supports these efforts.

Describe outreach and education initiatives: Discuss initiatives and how they contribute to managing vegetative matter, reducing contamination, and improving participation in waste diversion programs.

Build on local strengths and partnerships: Plans may describe how the district's governance structure, board priorities, and partnerships with municipalities, haulers, processors, and other community organizations can contribute to progress. Collaboration across neighboring districts or regions can help share infrastructure, align messaging, and improve efficiency.

Identify any district-specific goals or targets: Set any additional goals or targets that reflect local ambition or emerging priorities (e.g., food waste prevention, reuse programs, or composting initiatives), noting how these may complement the state's broader materials management vision and circular economy principles.

Implementation and resourcing: Outline potential implementation approaches such as phased timelines, partnerships, or funding mechanisms to demonstrate how proposed programs and initiatives can be sustained over time.

Next Steps

Reminders: Applications are due Monday September 14th, 2026

Award announcement: December 15th, 2026

Grantees will be provided with additional instructions and resources to ensure proper project implementation.



Contact Information



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