2022 FIVE YEAR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

June 2022

The Rock Island County Board adopted the Bi-State Regional Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (the Plan) on February 19, 1991. The Rock Island County Waste Management Agency (RICWMA), a Municipal Joint Action Agency, was established by an Intergovernmental Agreement in 1992. Subsequently, the Rock Island County Board delegated all solid waste management activities and planning authority to RICWMA.

The "Rock Island County Five Year Update of The Bi-State Regional Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan" was initially developed on January 23, 1996 and has been readopted by the RICWMA Board every 5 years following. The previous plan was completed and adopted in June, 2017. All Plans and Updates were submitted and filed with the Illinois EPA per the requirements of the Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (SWPRA).

This 2022 Five Year Solid Waste Management Plan Update is intended to reaffirm and continue previous solid waste planning goals and activities, and to guide solid waste management direction and policy for the next five years.

1. Recommendations and Implementation Schedule Contained in Adopted Plan:

a. Source Reduction

RICWMA continues making concerted efforts to emphasize source reduction within the planning area. RICWMA promotes source reduction as part of its public education component. Information is available on its website as a key communication tool for the agency.

b. Recycling and Reuse

Solid waste/recycling collections remain largely the purview of local governments. Whenever possible, RICWMA assists its local governments with curbside recycling subsidies, solid waste assistance grants. RICWMA also sponsors an appliance and used tire program and coordinates drop-off recycling with neighboring a waste agency and interested local governments, a household hazardous waste program, and an electronics disposal program. RICWMA, in cooperation with the Illinois EPA, has hosted household hazardous materials collection events and sponsored electronic collection events periodically. RICWMA staff participate in a local areawide food rescue partnership to reduce food waste.

c. Combustion For Energy Recovery

Waste-to-energy technology is viewed as a legitimate solid waste management option in Rock Island County. Waste-to-energy facilities desiring to operate in Rock Island County are required to meet all applicable federal, state, and local requirements and regulations. Each case should be judged on its economical and operational viability.

d. Combustion for Volume Reduction

No recommendations or implementation policy are planned or scheduled.

e. Disposal in Landfills

Currently, the receipt of out-of-state waste adequately complements the solid waste management situation in Rock Island County. Therefore, no prohibitory actions to control or prevent the receipt of out-of-county or out-of-state waste is recommended. The cities of Moline and Rock Island make efforts to land apply sewage sludge when appropriate.

2. Current Plan Implementation Efforts

a. Which recommendations in the adopted plan have been implemented?

All recommendations of source reduction, recycling and reuse, combustion for energy recovery and disposal in landfills have been implemented. RICWMA achieved its 25% recycling rate goal in 1997.

Briefly describe which recommendations were not implemented and the reasons why.

All recommendations of the 1996 and subsequent plans have been implemented in Rock Island County. RICWMA emphasizes the importance of continuing waste reduction, recycling, and educational efforts, and will continue to assist, plan, and implement programs to efficiently manage solid waste and recycling issues in Rock Island County.

b. Which recommendations in the adopted plan have been implemented according to the plan's schedule?

All recommendation schedules of the plan and subsequent updates have been accomplished.

Briefly describe which recommendations were not implemented according to the adopted plan's schedule.

Achievement of the 25% recycling rate was originally slightly delayed. Citizen participation in local recycling programs was lagging, and the costs of recycling to several municipalities had increased. RICWMA implemented concerted public education campaigns and expanded its efforts, achieving the 25% recycling rate goal in 1997.

The landfill disposal and recycling strategies described in the Plan are continual and ongoing, and promotion of reuse and source reduction continues. A revised implementation schedule is not applicable at this time.

3. Recycling Program Status

a. Has the program been implemented throughout the county or planning area?

Yes, RICWMA's programs include an electronics recycling drop-off program and Household Hazardous Materials drop-off facility in collaboration with the Waste

Commission of Scott County; and curbside white goods and used tire program that is contracted with an IA DNR certified appliance de-manufacturer. In partnership with the Illinois EPA, an annual household hazardous material event is hosted by RICWMA. The RICWMA sponsored county-wide drop-off recycling program was discontinued in September 2021 due to budgetary constraints. Residents are able to drop-off recycling in a neighboring county within the metropolitan area. Alternatives to the RICWMA sponsored program are being discussed by RICWMA and its members. A majority of RICWMA's member governments provide curbside recycling to its citizens.

b. Has a recycling coordinator been designated to administer the program?

Yes

If so, when?

RICWMA does not have a designated "recycling coordinator" as a stand-alone position. RICWMA contracts with the Bi-State Regional Commission for general administrative services. Bi-State Regional Commission appoints staff to function in the capacity of RICWMA Staff Coordinator, on a part-time basis, to administer the overall services and programs of RICWMA. Recycling is one of those programs as noted above.

c. Does the program provide for separate collection and composting of leaves?

Yes, all the member governments of RICWMA do have separate collection and composting of leaves. One landfill uses composted yard waste as a soil amendment on exterior landfill slopes and, secondarily, uses compost as Alternative Daily Cover. The other landfill within Rock Island County composts yard waste for Alternative Daily Cover. The Cities of Moline and Rock Island have instituted burn bans within their corporate limits. Silvis and East Moline have limited periods where burning is allowed.

d. Does the program provide for public education and notification to foster understanding of compliance with the program?

Yes, RICWMA also makes its waste and recycling program information and other general educational information available to the public on its website at www.ricwma.org. Each member government of RICWMA also provides education to their citizens on RICWMA programs as well as their community-specific garbage and recycling programs. Program brochures are also available and handed out at events. Additional media releases are used for further public education. RICWMA hosts booths at local events to educate Rock Island County citizens on RICWMA's programs as well as recycling, reuse, and source reduction methods.

e. Does the recycling program include provisions for compliance, including incentives and penalties?

Yes

If yes, please describe.

RICWMA does not have a specific recycling ordinance that requires compliance or includes incentives and/or penalties. Member governments have implemented schedule-based bulky waste pick-ups with a built-in fee structure, moving away from clean-up weeks.

f. Does the program include provisions for recycling the collected materials, identifying potential markets for at least three materials, and promoting the use of products made from recovered or recycled materials among businesses, newspapers, and local governments?

Yes

If yes, please describe.

Most of the communities of Rock Island County have individual refuse and recycling contracts with Republic Services or Midland Davis. RICWMA educates and promotes waste reduction, recycling, and reuse on a county-wide basis; however, Republic Services and Midland Davis identify and deal with potential markets. These program efforts are continual and ongoing.

g. Provide any other pertinent details on the recycling program.

Rock Island County Waste Management Agency (RICWMA) assists its member governments with their individual recycling programs by providing educational materials, technical assistance, and other special collection and processing programs. Since the last plan update, RICWMA hosted electronic waste collection events in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015. In 2016, collection events became cost prohibitive. A year-round electronic recycling drop-off program provides regular service. In 2021, RICWMA partnered with the Illinois EPA to host an annual household hazardous material collection event. RICWMA also partners with Living Lands and Waters for an annual X-Stream Clean-Up, and partnered with local agencies and the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative on a plastics pollution clean-up and data collection month-long event.

New programs and services are developed and implemented as the need arises, or upon request by a member jurisdiction. RICWMA will evaluate its programs and the need for additional programs for efficiency and fiscal responsibility on a continual basis.

4. Current Needs Assessment Information (Optional)

a. Depending upon the available resources, updated waste generation data, current municipal waste recycling and disposal information, and any other recent available data may be included; this information will not be required by the Agency.

Information is still being gathered and is not available at this time.

5. New Recommendations and Implementation Schedule

a. Due to political, fiscal, or technological changes, a local government may choose to recommend different waste management options for the revised plan. It should be noted, however, that the recycling program requirements of the SWPRA must be followed. Discuss any new recommendations included in the revised plan, and the implementation schedule to be followed.

As part of the Plan update, RICWMA Board members responded to a survey developed by member staff. The response to the survey is as follows.

There were eight responses total

1. What challenges or threats do you foresee in the next 5 years relating to solid waste?

   Rural accessibility and representation, staffing shortage/manpower, cost and proper funding for countywide recycling, PFAS chemicals (waste water), landfill space

2. Review and prioritize the existing Policy Recommendations for the County's Solid Waste Plan. (Lowest number represents the highest priority.)

Rank	Policy Recommendation	Average
1	A commitment to intergovernmental cooperation in solid waste management matters when it is in the best interest of the member governments of RICWMA.	2.7
2	The Rock Island County Waste Management Agency (RICWMA) continue to emphasize the importance of waste reduction and implement waste reduction efforts.	3.7
3	Facilities not classified as regional pollution control facilities must be in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local rules and regulations.	4.3
4	Solid waste/recycling collections remain the purview of local governments. Solid waste disposal should remain a laissez-faire system.	4.6
5	The receipt of out-of-county and out-of-state waste as a solid waste management policy issues is recognized. Facilities receiving out-of-state waste shall be required to submit pertinent state reporting forms to RICWMA.	4.9
6	RICWMA continue the member government/private sector implementation strategy for recycling. RICWMA should continue to plan and implement recycling efforts at member governments' request.	5.1
7	Waste-to-energy technology should be viewed as a legitimate solid management option. Each case should be judged on its economical and operational viability.	5.5
8	All applicants for siting of a regional pollution control facility in Rock Island County must prove the facility is necessary to accommodate the solid waste needs of Rock Island County.	5.6
9	Applicants for siting of a regional pollution control facility in Rock Island County must submit a copy of the siting application to RICWMA for determination of its consistency to the Bi-State Regional Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and its subsequent updates.	6.2

3. Do you have any additional policy recommendations that are not listed?

   "There needs to be a fully funded state, local, and private organization to promote recycling and waste minimization"

4. Provide any additional comments you have related to the administration and programs of the Rock Island County Waste Management Agency.

   None.

RICWMA continues the member government/private sector implementation strategy for recycling and the other strategies in the original Plan and subsequent updates. RICWMA continues to investigate ways to expand and improve the current recycling and reuse programs, as well as its other subsidies and services. RICWMA continues to plan and implement new waste reduction and recycling efforts at member government requests. RICWMA continues to prioritize sustaining existing programs that are critical to responsible waste management in the county. RICWMA continues to collaborate with partner agencies, such as the Waste Commission of Scott County, Iowa. These efforts are continual and ongoing, and a revised implementation schedule is not applicable at this time.

RICWMA strives to improve public knowledge of offered programs and education and awareness of solid waste management including recycling, source reduction, and environmentally aligned messages through partnerships during local events and with other agencies with RICMWA's mission.