



**Rock Island County
Waste Management Agency**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT (RICWMA) DISCONTINUES RECYCLING DROP-OFF PROGRAM

Over the past year and a half, RICWMA received decreased tipping fees resulting from lower solid waste tonnages at the landfills. The decreased waste is largely due to COVID-19 restrictions on businesses. Tipping fees from the landfills comprise the majority of the agency's income. As a result of the June 21, 2021 RICWMA meeting, the Board was faced with a decision to cut significant programs from the budget. The budget cuts included elimination of the curbside recycling subsidy program and the recycling drop-off program. These programs were eliminated in favor of retaining the Solid Waste Assistance Grant program that provides funds to RICWMA members to engage in a number of solid waste activities in their communities.

There are currently four sites hosted by East Moline, Milan, Moline, and Rock Island. Site hosts were affected disproportionately by the program as they carried the burden of staffing and resources to maintain the drop-off locations and cost to clean-up and dispose of illegally dumped items. Previously, the host cities received a subsidy to maintain the sites, but this subsidy was eliminated in July 2020 due to budget constraints. These factors contributed to the elimination of the drop-off recycling program. The containers will be permanently removed from the sites on September 30, 2021.

RICWMA encourages residents to continue recycling. All member cities offer either mandatory or voluntary curbside recycling. Rural residents may utilize the recycling drop-off at the Scott Area Recycling Center located at 5640 Carey Avenue, Davenport, IA 52807. Republic Services also provides curbside recycling to some rural areas of Rock Island County. To check if you fall within their service area, call 563-888-6597.

For more information, residents may contact RICMWA at (309) 788-8925 or visit the website at www.ricwma.org.

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FOR MEDIA CONTACT INFORMATION:

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