

Lorain County Solid Waste Management District



Annual Report
2013

A letter from the Director

Dear Lorain County Resident:

Our team at the Lorain County Solid Waste Management District (District) continues to explore ways to provide programs which hopefully benefit you and the environment. Once again, many of the goals we achieved over the past year were through the support and participation from our political subdivisions and residents, for which we are genuinely grateful.

One of the highlights of 2013 was working with communities to develop a bid process for trash, recycling and yard waste services. We received a request from a township trustee to develop the bid process and began by holding meetings with the Township Trustees Association. Through these meetings, we determined the political subdivisions interested in establishing a consortium for trash, recycling and yard waste services. The District provided initial funding to get a bid and contract put together. The results were outstanding. The residents living in the communities that participated will be saving an estimated \$5 million dollars over the five year contract. Rumpke won the bid (for participating townships and villages) and is a new provider for Lorain County residents. Service started in January 2014 with communities indicating they are pleased with their new service provider.

Another highlight for the District was the adoption of a Zero Waste Plan (ZWP) by the City of Oberlin. The District identified the City of Oberlin as a prime candidate and organized a meeting with the City to gauge interest in taking part in the development of a ZWP. The City agreed to participate and entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the District. The goals outlined in the ZWP are achieved through a number of activities and programs, to be implemented in three phases. The ZWP was presented to City Council in December of 2013 and was adopted by resolution in May of 2014. The City of Oberlin is the first municipality in Ohio to formally adopt a Zero Waste Plan.

At the end of 2013, we began updating our solid waste management plan. We encourage interested residents to attend Policy Committee meetings during the plan development process which will continue into 2015.

Please take the time to look through this report and see all the programs our District has to offer. We hope to see you at our Collection Center or at activities for other programs we offer to the residents, communities, businesses, and institutions in Lorain County. We hope you share in our vision to reduce waste to create a healthier environment and stronger economy.

Sincerely,



Keith A. Bailey
District Director

Our Mission

To Implement the Lorain County Solid Waste Management Plan by Educating & Encouraging Recycling Efforts, Waste Reduction, & Litter Prevention in Lorain County

Commissioners

Ted Kalo
Lori Kokoski
Tom Williams

Policy Committee

Ted Kalo
Commissioner
Chase Ritenauer
Mayor, City of Lorain
David Covell
Health Commissioner
Brian Parsons
Chair, Representing the Public
Mary Beth Derikito
Representing Townships
Ken Schneider
Representing Industry
Dr. David Hintz
Representing the Public

District Staff

Keith A. Bailey
Director
Beverly Gardner
Administrative Assistant
Sally Pecora
Project Manager
Marilyn Pileski
David L. McGuire
Brandi N. Schnell
Tiffany Barker
Solid Waste Specialists

A proud member of the Lorain County Growth Partnership



Connect with the Solid Waste District

Give Us a Call...

We can answer any of your questions about

- How to dispose or recycle any type of solid waste
- How to dispose of hazardous materials
- Solid waste district events or programs
- Materials and products that are made with recycled content
- Scheduling an educational presentation for your school or group

Toll-free: 1-800-449-5463

8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday

Last year, we assisted 3,326 Lorain County residents with questions about recycling and waste management on our hotline! That's an average of 277 calls per month.

...Or Visit Us on the Web!

Visit us at: www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste. To serve you better, the website offers easy access to information related to solid waste management and recycling. Our website includes:

- Local solid waste news and events
- Reports and publications
- Hours and materials accepted at the Collection Center
- Educational services and materials, including a "Kids Corner"
- Frequently asked questions (FAQs)
- Recycling tips for your home and office
- And much more!

We're on Facebook!



The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District is on Facebook! Our page is regularly updated with upcoming events, photos, videos, links, articles, and tips on waste reduction. "Like" us to stay connected and get important up-to-date information about local solid waste and recycling issues!

Information About Your Community

Many Lorain County communities sponsor special collection events and programs for their residents. Each local government has different rules concerning curbside pickup of large items, such as appliances, furniture, large tree limbs, etc. Your local service department or township fiscal officer is your best source for community-specific information.



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THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS "AWAY."
WHEN WE THROW ANYTHING AWAY
IT MUST GO SOMEWHERE.

-ANNIE LEONARD

CREATOR OF *THE STORY OF STUFF*

Community Recycling

The Decade in Review

Lorain County residents have increased the annual tons of materials collected from curbside recycling and drop-off programs by nearly 60% from 2003 to 2013. The significant increase in recycling is impressive, but there is still plenty of opportunity to improve. Currently, approximately 30% of household waste is recycled in Lorain County, but the EPA estimates that at least 75% of trash sent to landfills is recyclable.

2003—2013 Lorain County Residential Recycling



What Influences Lorain County's Recycling Rates?

- **Individual participation** in the District's recycling programs, from residents like you, determine the success of material recovery rates in Lorain County.
- **Recycling infrastructure**, or the basic programs and facilities available to residents to collect recyclable material.
Curbside and drop-off recycling programs and material collection facilities, such as the Lorain County Collection Center, are essential to supporting increased recycling rates.
- **The economy** influences the amount of consumer purchases and directly correlates to waste generation and recycling rates.
- **Education and awareness** about why recycling is important for the environment and the economy, as well as being informed about local recycling opportunities, contributes to higher recycling participation rates.

Did your community increase its recycling totals this year?
Check the next page to find out!

Recycling Report Card

Lorain County Community	Type of Program	2009 Tons	2010 Tons	2011 Tons	2012 Tons	2013 Tons
Amherst (City)	VBS	819	1,163	1,483	1,077	1,292
Amherst Township	VBS	512	498	436	418	287
Avon (City)	VBS	3,290	3,001	2,481	2,316	1,687
Avon Lake (City)	VBS	1,565	1,159	1,020	934	901
Brighton Township	VBS	52	69	97	58	156
Brownhelm Township	VBS	23	39	80	63	43
Camden Township	VBS	73	82	62	62	17
Carlisle Township	VBS	782	746	715	528	373
Columbia Township	VBS	483	715	736	611	396
Eaton Township	VBS	234	473	379	306	170
Elyria (City)	VBS	2,174	1,083	2,878	3,665	3,609
Elyria Township	VBS	183	342	322	330	257
Grafton (Village)	VBS	289	240	271	254	174
Grafton Township	VBS	261	257	228	200	180
Henrietta Township	DNR	95	126	98	DNR	33
Huntington Township	VBS	84	106	60	51	51
Kipton (Village)	VBS	12	11	21	28	36
LaGrange (Village)	VBS	108	187	233	230	256
LaGrange Township	VBS	152	342	385	304	283
Lorain (City)	NSC	1,371	1,078	879	909	724
N. Ridgeville (City)	VBS	1,122	1,237	2,433	3,161	2,414
New Russia Township	VBS	12	183	195	191	102
Oberlin (City)	VBS	698	814	775	833	806
Penfield Township	VBS	164	167	404	83	164
Pittsfield Township	VBS	55	151	148	144	89
Rochester (Village)	VBS	4	8	3	3	2
Rochester Township	VBS	29	23	35	33	83
S. Amherst (Village)	VBS	70	175	220	234	255
Sheffield (Village)	VBS	432	182	229	336	288
Sheffield Lake (City)	VBS	345	527	913	785	675
Sheffield Township	VBS	82	230	569	317	397
Vermilion (City)	VBS	284	745	1,376	1,225	970
Wellington (Village)	VBS	1,008	382	427	283	273
Wellington Township	VBS	63	83	83	83	103
Total Tons		16,930	16,624	20,674	20,055	17,546

Program Types: VBS= Volume-Based System; NSC= Non-Subscription Curbside; DNR= Did Not Report

Special Material Collection

The Collection Center

The District's permanent Collection Center is located at 540 S. Abbe Rd. in Elyria, Ohio. Nearly 1.9 million pounds of materials were collected at the center in 2013. Visit www.loraincounty.us/collectioncenter for a list of materials accepted at the Collection Center.

Residents:

Use of the center is **free** to residents of Lorain County. Residents can drop-off:

- Household hazardous waste (HHW)
- Electronic waste
- Fluorescent lamps & ballasts
- Scrap tires
- Microwaves
- Books (hardback/paperback)
- Cardboard and paper
- **NEW:** Mixed residential recycling (aluminum and steel cans, glass bottles and jars, and plastic containers #1-7)

Businesses:

Businesses with facilities in Lorain County may use the e-scrap, book, cardboard, and fluorescent lamp & ballast recycling programs for **free!**

Collection Center Hours

Mondays and Wednesdays: 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call **1-800-449-5463** for more information.

2013 Collection Center Stats

Scrap Tires.....	681,900 pounds
E-Waste.....	597,374 pounds
HHW.....	415,732 pounds
Bulbs and Ballasts.....	116,072 pounds
Cardboard.....	30,420 pounds
Scrap metal.....	21,950 pounds
Books.....	16,620 pounds
Rechargeable Batteries.....	15,123 pounds
Ink Cartridges and Cell Phones.....	2,998 pounds

The Collection Center has allowed us to house many special programs under one roof, making them more convenient & accessible to residents! The following programs are operated at the Collection Center:

Fluorescent Bulb & Ballast Program

Fluorescent and high intensity discharge (HID) lamps and their ballasts, as well as compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) are accepted.

Ink Cartridge & Cell Phone Recycling Program

The District partnered with the Lorain County Office On Aging (LCOOA) for this program. Approximately 1,500 ink cartridges and cell phones were recycled. Senior volunteers sorted and shipped the materials, earning more than \$1,483 to support their programs. Any organization can help collect materials for this program by calling Sue Malik at 440-326-4819.

Electronics Recycling Program

Electronics collected by the District are processed by a contractor that refurbishes some of the equipment so it can be reused by schools or non-profit organizations. If it cannot be updated, then the metals and other electrical components are recycled.

Electronic equipment accepted at the Collection Center includes: computers, monitors, printers, TVs (under 27"), cell phones, (including batteries, chargers and cables), copiers, fax machines, home stereos and selected other home electronics.

Book Recycling

The District collects "end of life" books, which are books that either contain outdated information or are in poor condition. Soft cover and hard cover books, reference manuals, and phonebooks are accepted.

Phonebooks can also be recycled at more than 100 Abitibi Paper Retriever bins in Lorain County. To find one near you, visit: www.paperretriever.com

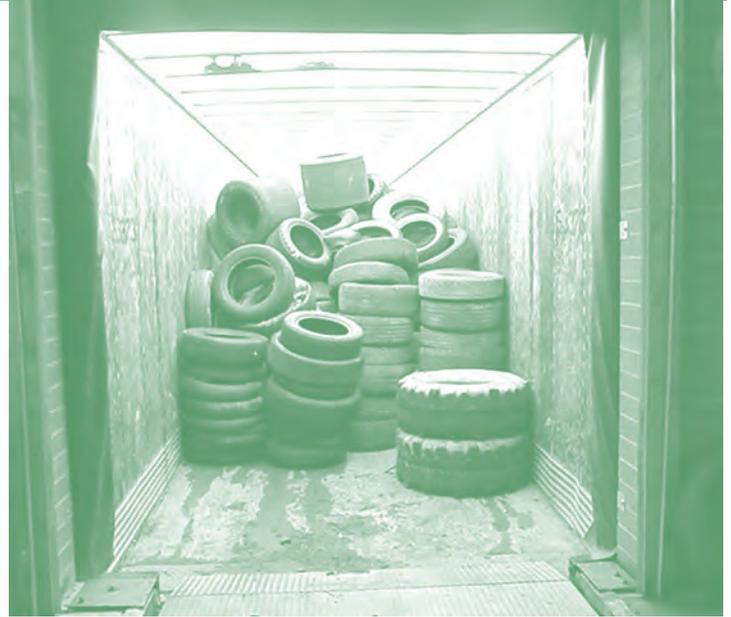
Once you're there, click "Find a Recycling Bin!"

Scrap Tire Recycling

Scrap Tires

Almost 16 million used tires were discarded in Ohio in 2013. If improperly disposed, scrap tires pose a serious risk to human and environmental health. Used and discarded tires retain water and become a breeding ground for disease-carrying pests like mosquitos and rats. Scrap tires are also a fire hazard because of their ability to retain heat. Once scrap tires ignite, the flames are often difficult to extinguish.

The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District provides scrap tire management options to residents in an effort to keep Lorain County beautiful and a safe and healthy place to live. Nearly 681,900 pounds of scrap tires were collected at the Lorain County Collection Center in 2013.



Where Can I Properly Dispose of My Scrap Tires?

- Lorain County Collection Center, 540 S. Abbe Road, Elyria, Ohio
- Lorain City Garage, 114 E. 35th Street, Lorain, Ohio, 7AM-3PM (M-F)
- Grafton Township Hall, 17109 Avon Belden Road, Grafton, Ohio, 8AM-4PM (M-F)

Did you know...?

Proper tire maintenance can extend the life of your tires! To reduce the overall number of tires you will purchase and dispose, follow these tips:

- Use correct tire inflation pressure.
Check once a month and before long trips.
- Inspect tires regularly for signs of uneven wear patterns.
This can be a sign of misalignment or improper balance!
- Never exceed your vehicle's load limits.
You can find this information and any special instructions on your tire placard in your owner's manual.
- Be a smart driver!
Obeying speed limits, avoiding fast stops, starts, and turns, and avoiding potholes will prolong the life of your tires.



Farm Tire Collection

The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District received a generous grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency that allowed the District to expand its existing tire collection program in 2013 to include agricultural tires. Lorain County residents who own or operate agricultural equipment were able to recycle scrap farm tires for free during the Farm Tire Collection event.

Financial Support & Market Development

Community Incentive Grant Program

The Community Incentive Grant Program helps communities by providing funding annually to improve or maintain curbside recycling programs. Communities are encouraged to use the grant to increase participation rates through education and awareness programs, social marketing campaigns, and improved opportunities for multi-family housing complexes and other appropriately targeted activities or equipment purchases. In 2013, the District distributed \$290,160 in grants to Lorain County cities, townships, and villages.

How Does My Community Earn Grant Funding?

Each year, community administrators report the total tons of recycling from curbside and drop-off programs to the District. The amount awarded to each community is based on the total tons collected by curbside and drop-off recycling programs. Communities that recycle the most are awarded more grant dollars.

What Other Factors Influence My Community's Grant Funding?

The amount awarded to each community is also based on the type of curbside program the community operates. Volume-based systems (VBS), also known as "pay-as-you-throw" (PAYT) systems, are the most effective in terms of achieving the highest percentage of diverted materials. Residents using this program pay for the volume of trash that is disposed, but have unlimited recycling, thus creating an economic incentive for households to recycle more and waste less. As an incentive to communities to offer residents the best recycling services, communities with VBS receive a grant credit for 100% of the recyclables reported, while communities with less effective programs, such as blue bag recycling programs, receive a grant credit for 50% of the recyclables reported. In 2013, thirty-two of thirty-four Lorain County communities operated a VBS for trash and recycling.

The Recycling Revolving Loan Program

The District's Recycling Revolving Loan program provides financial assistance to Lorain County businesses, organizations, and non-profits that utilize recycled materials either in their building materials or in their manufacturing process.

Supporting the use of recycled materials is important to ensuring the success of recycling programs. Using recycled materials is known as **closing the loop**. When recycled materials are in demand, a stable market is created, causing the cost of the recycled materials to be competitive or lower than their counterparts made with virgin materials.

The use of recycled materials also reduces the need to extract or harvest virgin raw materials and natural resources, thereby saving energy and reducing air and water pollution.

Locally, the Recycling Revolving Loan program:

- Promotes recycling business opportunities
- Provides additional markets for recycled materials
- Retains and creates recycling-related jobs
- Increases the manufacturing capacity for recyclable materials in Lorain County

How Can I "Close the Loop?"

Look for the logo  on packaging or products. Used alone, the logo means a product or package is both recyclable and made of recycled material.

If the logo is used next to a percentage, the percentage indicates how much of the total product is made from post-consumer recycled materials.

Common products made with post-consumer recycled content materials include:

- Paper products: office paper, paper towels, tissues, napkins, cardboard boxes
- Clothing made from recycled cotton or plastic soda bottles
- Building and construction materials
- Automobiles: re-refined motor oil, mud flaps, retreaded tires, used parts
- Gardening supplies: hoses, fencing, mulch, and compost

Connecting with the Community

New C.A. B. (“Clean and Beautiful”) Program

The C.A.B. Program began in 2012 when the District was awarded a grant from Keep America Beautiful. Knowing the importance of the 3 R’s, the District **reused** an under-utilized trailer by transforming it into the “CAB” – an enclosed trailer stocked with all of the supplies needed to complete litter clean-up and/or beautification activities.

Supplies include a lawn mower, leaf blower, trimmer, assorted rakes, shovels, pruners, gardening tools, safety vests, gloves, safety cones, garbage bags, and more. Communities and organizations can request to borrow the CAB for FREE!



To request a C.A.B. trailer, please contact Tiffany Barker, Solid Waste Specialist, at **440-328-2368**



Pride Days

Each year, Lorain County residents have the opportunity to take part in Pride Day, a county-wide litter collection and beautification event promoted and sponsored by the District. The District celebrates Pride Day as part of Keep America Beautiful’s Great American Clean Up, the nation’s largest annual community improvement program.

We would like to thank the 2,051 residents who volunteered a combined total of 6,500 hours to make Lorain County a beautiful and safe place we are proud to call “home!”



Community Events

The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District connects with communities throughout the year by conducting presentations and attending local events, festivals, and the Lorain County Fair. Visiting the District’s educational booths are a great place to ask questions and pick up flyers on topics ranging from recycling and source reduction to composting.

We encourage you to stop by next time you see our booth at a community event!

2013 Accomplishments

- 50 miles of roadway cleaned
- 142 acres of parks cleaned
- 198 tons of litter removed
- 10 miles of trails
- 20 playgrounds painted and refurbished
- 6 school yards cleaned
- 1.5 miles of water ways
- 148 flats of flowers planted
- 75 plants potted
- 1 graffiti site abated
- 231 bags of newspapers
- 1,160 pounds of reusables donated



Get Involved!

If you want to be part of your community’s Pride Day activities, call **1-800-449-5463** and ask to be put in touch with your community Pride Day representative!

Protecting the Environment

Environmental Crimes Unit



The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District and the Lorain County Sheriff's Office established the Environmental Crimes Unit (ECU) in 2009. The ECU was started to protect Lorain County residents and the environment. The ECU responds to complaints about litter, open dumping, and other environmental

crimes reported by the general public, local businesses, cities, townships, and county governments, as well as other law enforcement agencies. The ECU also provides the public with information and resources on how to properly dispose of different types of waste. The ECU aims to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Lorain County through education and enforcement.

What's New for the ECU?

The ECU has employed the use of FlashCAMs to catch illegal dumpers in the act. FlashCAMs are solar-powered motion activated cameras that can snap a photo of criminals or their license plates day or night. FlashCAMs have a built-in audio warning system, so when deputies see illegal dumping occurring on the remote monitoring system, they can warn perpetrators that they are on camera committing a crime. The photo below shows Deputy Jackson explaining how a FlashCAM operates.

In 2013, the ECU investigated:

- 60 Abandoned vehicles cases
 - 14 Littering cases
 - 8 Open dumping cases
 - 1 Open burning case
 - 1 Polluting state lands and water case
 - 24 Other Ohio Revised Code violations and reports
- 108 Potential Criminal Charges and Processes**



Saving Tax Dollars and Neighborhoods

The Environmental Crimes Unit aims to save Lorain County residents tax money and improve neighborhoods. Areas affected by illegal dumping and litter can be expensive to clean up. The ECU saves residents' tax dollars that would otherwise be spent on costly cleanups. Once areas affected by illegal dumping are cleaned and offenders are off the streets, crime goes down, property values improve, and families start moving back into previously blighted areas.

Crimes against the environment affect everyone.

Littering attracts more litter and decreases property values. Open dumping attracts disease-carrying pests. Abandoned tires are a fire hazard. Illegal trash burning can contaminate the air and groundwater with dangerous toxins.

To report littering, dumping or other environmental crimes contact the Environmental Crimes Unit by visiting www.loraincountysheriff.com and under "Divisions" select the "Environmental Crimes Unit," or call the Environmental Crimes Unit directly:

Deputy William Curtis, **440-329-3743**

Deputy J.M. Jackson, **440-329-3759**

Business and Industrial Recycling

Business Recycling

Business recycling encompasses the activities of retail establishments, business offices, and non-profit organizations. The two materials recycled most by commercial facilities are cardboard and wood pallets.

Industrial Recycling

Industrial recycling refers primarily to the recycling of scrap material, such as metals and plastics, resulting from a manufacturing process. It also covers the reuse of materials incidental to the process, including cardboard, pallets, and packaging materials. Lorain County industries recycled 89,555 tons (approximately 1.8 million pounds) in 2013!

Business Roundtable

The Business Roundtable is a program that brings people together in engaging, educational discussions about innovative recycling processes and applications for the business community, as well as other solid waste topics. Participation from all types of businesses and industries is encouraged. Businesses are also welcome to share recycling success stories and discuss their recycling efforts with the group. If you would like to get involved, contact the District at **1-800-449-5463**.

Free Waste Assessments

The District continues to provide free waste assessments to local businesses. A waste assessment is a formal review of manufacturing or business operations designed to spotlight opportunities for waste reduction, reuse, or recycling.

Strategic plans are provided to businesses and industries that participate in a District waste assessment. These plans outline specific goals and objectives and include a realistic schedule for businesses and industries to implement strategies and recommendations identified throughout the assessment process. If your business would like more information about a free waste assessment, call the District at **1-800-449-5463**.

Recycling at Work

Businesses/organizations interested in recycling paper can use Abitibi's Paper Retriever Program, which promotes recycling through the placement of bins and collection of materials for **free**. Non-profits and schools that host a Paper Retriever bin are paid for the material they collect.

More than 2,700 tons of paper was recycled in approximately 270 Paper Retriever boxes throughout Lorain County during 2013!

Recycling programs are available through Republic Waste Services for businesses that wish to recycle multiple materials. The District works with businesses to provide recycling containers by request.

5 Major Benefits of Business Recycling

1. Cost Savings

Save money on trash disposal fees. Some recyclable materials actually generate revenue!

2. Corporate Social Responsibility

Build loyalty with customers by showing that your company is doing its part to minimize its impact on the planet.

3. Employee Satisfaction

Workplaces that take part in environmentally friendly programs like recycling report higher morale and lower employee turnover rates.

4. Environmental Benefits

Recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions, supplies raw materials, prevents water pollution, and saves energy!

5. Job Creation

Recycling boosts our economy by creating or sustaining jobs in collection, processing, manufacturing, and reselling. Recycling supports 10 times as many jobs per 10,000 tons of waste than traditional waste disposal.

Education & Awareness

The District is committed to promoting the reduction, reusing, and recycling of solid waste through educational programs and outreach efforts.

Adult Education

Adult groups and organizations interested in learning more about topics related to solid waste reduction or management are encouraged to request a presentation. In 2013, more than 100 residents attended the District's civic presentations.

Collection Center Tours

Adults and students are invited to request a tour to visit the Lorain County Collection Center on Abbe Road in Elyria to view how the facility operates and learn about proper household hazardous waste disposal.



Collection Center Tour
St. Mary's Environmental Club

Lending Library

The District continued to build its online lending library, adding new books and movies in 2013 to help educators teach students about reducing, reusing, and recycling. Additional tools for educators like activities and worksheets are also available online. For more information, to schedule a presentation for your classroom or adult group, or request a tour of the Collection Center, contact Brandi Schnell, Solid Waste Specialist at: **(440) 328-2249**, or bschnell@loraincounty.us.

Student Presentations

Nearly 6,408 students and 100 adults participated in the District's 284 presentations given during 2013. Presentations focused on the three R's (reduce, reuse, and recycle!), renewable and non-renewable resources, litter prevention, and District programs.



Recycling Awards
Crestwood Elementary



Hands-On Learning Activity
Lake Ridge Academy



Student Presentation
Midview West Elementary



Earth Camp
Common Ground

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!

Annual Calendar Contest

Each year, the District hosts an annual calendar contest for local students. The participants designed drawings around the three R's or litter prevention. Winners had their artwork featured in the District's 2014 calendar. Approximately 900 students representing 27 Lorain County schools participated in the District's calendar contest during 2013.



Winner **Chad Hoover**
North Ridgeville High School



Winner **Makenna Skye Ruoff**
Midview North Elementary

Organics Education Programs

The District continued the compost education program. In 2013, the District provided funding to the OSU Agricultural Extension Office to conduct presentations for students and adults on composting and gardening related topics. Additionally, more than 20 residents and 14 Master Gardeners received hands-on training by learning to manage 65 cubic feet of compost and wood chips at the County Agricultural Center. The Lorain County Master Gardeners volunteered 131 hours of service to providing technical assistance and answering questions from fellow residents about composting. Informational sessions were also broadcast on WEOL Radio.

Here are some easy tips to help keep yard waste out of the landfill:

- Mulch your grass clippings as you mow. Leaving the clippings on the lawn provides a great source of nutrients for a healthy lawn.
- Consider a backyard compost kit. A composting specialist at the Lorain County Office of the OSU Agricultural Extension Service is employed part-time by the District, to promote better methods of managing organic materials. They can give you technical assistance in preparing backyard compost. Call the OSU Agricultural Extension Office at **440-326-5851** for more details.
- Participate in the yard waste collection program offered by your community.



Home Composting

We encourage you, as residents of Lorain County, to learn the benefits of composting first hand by creating your own compost bin or pile. Compost makes soil loose and dark, helps retain water, fertilizes, and makes plants and gardens grow better. Yard waste and fruit and vegetable scraps may be placed in compost.

For questions, please contact the OSU Extension-Lorain County Office:

440-326-5851

Local Composting Facilities

Yard waste comprised **50%** of the residential/commercial waste recycled in Lorain County in 2013. Leaves, grass clippings and brush are materials that do not belong in our landfills. Some Lorain County communities have leaf and grass clipping collection programs. In Lorain County, we have 14 registered Class III and IV compost facilities. More than 37,200 tons of yard waste was managed at these facilities in 2013.

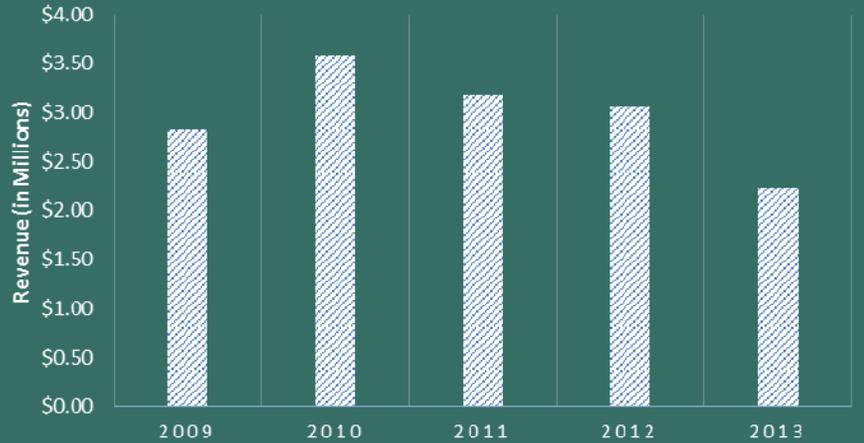
Fiscal Transparency

Revenue

The District earns revenue through a \$2.00 “tipping fee,” which is a charge levied on each ton of waste delivered at waste processing facilities (landfills and transfer stations) in Lorain County. Unlike many districts in Ohio, Lorain County’s tipping fee is the same for in-district and out-of-district waste.

Revenue generated from tipping fees must be used by solid waste districts for specific purposes that are defined by Ohio law. The District uses revenue mainly to operate programs, implement the Solid Waste Management Plan, and manage facilities. In 2013, the District received approximately \$2.23 million dollars.

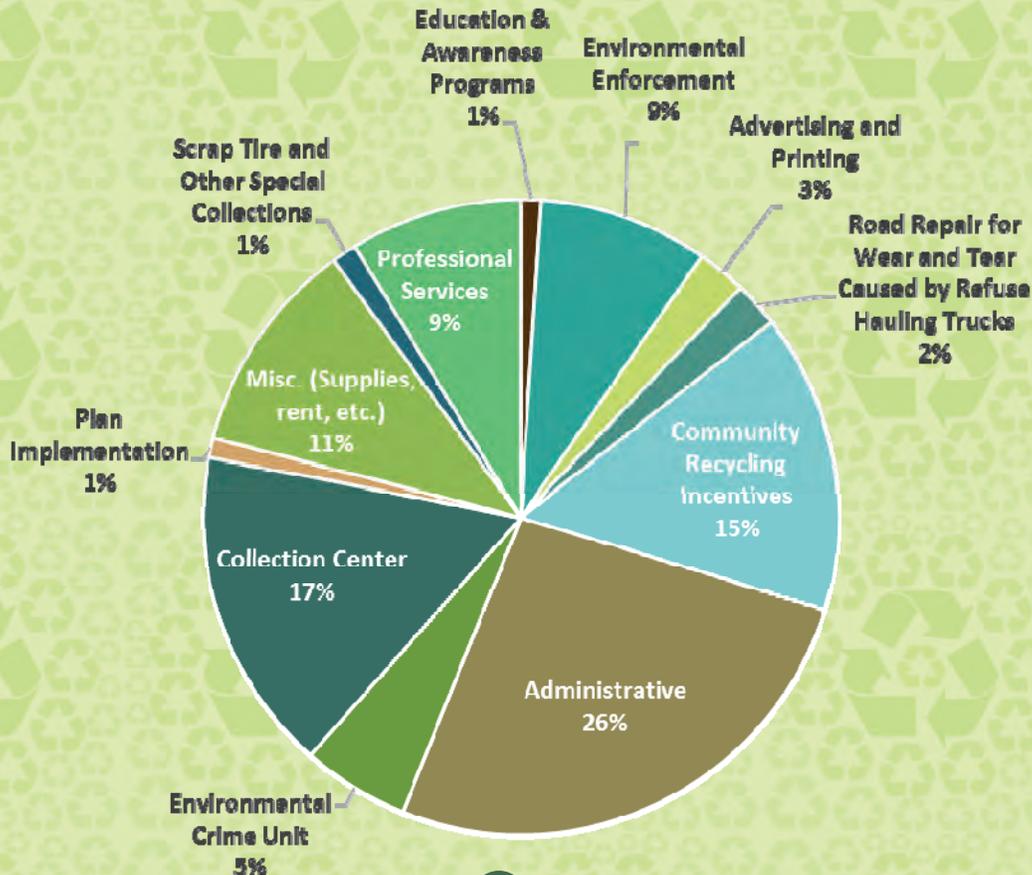
2009—2013 District Revenues



Expenses

Total District expenses were \$2.16 million in 2013. The figure below presents a detailed description of how revenue was allocated in 2013.

2013 District Expenses



Zero Waste Planning

In the District's previous annual report, zero waste planning on a community level was identified as a priority. During 2013, the District and the City of Oberlin collaborated to develop a Zero Waste Plan (ZWP) for Oberlin. The District funded the development of the plan which took place over the course of a 6 month period. The ZWP establishes a goal of 90% reduction by 2050 or sooner, which will be achieved by implementing a number of activities and programs over a three-phase process.

The ZWP was presented to City Council in December of 2013 and adopted by resolution in May of 2014.

The City of Oberlin is the first municipality in Ohio to formally adopt a Zero Waste Plan.

Joint Bidding Consortium

In early 2013, the District received a call from a Trustee concerned with pricing and the quality of service from the Township's then current hauler. The District worked with the Township Trustees Association and other interested communities to develop a joint bidding consortium for recycling, yard waste, and trash collection. Joint bidding leverages the purchasing power of many small communities, often resulting in improved services and pricing.

Through the consortium, some townships were able to lower waste hauling costs by more than 50% per household!

Residents in participating communities will save an estimated \$5 million over the 5-year contract term.

Future Plans

The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District will continue to set high standards for programming, services, and waste diversion results.

We will be drafting our 2016—2025 Solid Waste Management Plan Update during 2014 and 2015. During this time, we encourage Lorain County residents and businesses to participate in this process by attending our policy committee meetings. We value your ideas for programs and services that can help our County send less materials to landfills.

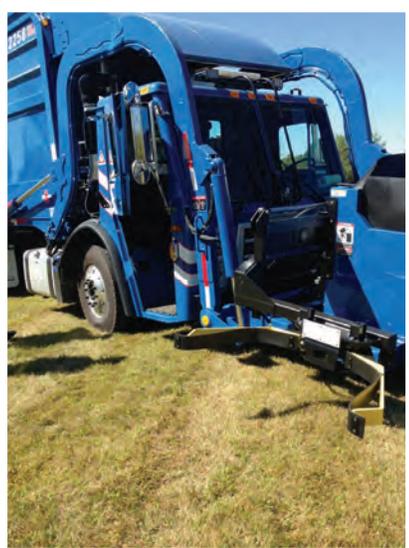
We will be adding three new C.A.B. ("Clean and Beautiful") trailers to our fleet in 2014 to increase the local resources available for groups to tackle litter clean-up or beautification projects. When our CABs are not in use, we will be lending them to local non-profit organizations to be "reused" as portable collection sites for food and donation drives.

One of our major goals is to focus on developing effective landfill diversion programs for waste. Future programs may focus on targeted materials or zero waste initiatives.

The District is also currently working on selecting a site for a new local composting facility and negotiating a contract with an organics recycler that will operate the facility. This new facility will expand Lorain County's ability to process organic waste into valuable products.

The Solid Waste District would like to thank all of the residents, communities, businesses, and institutions that have used our programs and shared our vision to reduce waste, support the economy, and create a healthier environment. With your support, we can make 2014 Lorain County's most successful year yet!





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