



Lorain County Solid Waste Management District 2008 Annual Report



Board of Commissioners



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Our Mission

*To Implement The Lorain County
Solid Waste Management Plan
By Educating And Encouraging Recycling
Efforts, Waste Reduction & Litter Prevention
In Lorain County.*

Reduce · Reuse · Recycle!

Policy Committee

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Betty Blair, Commissioner
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Howard Akin
James Boddy
Brian Parsons
Don Romancak



***A proud member of the Lorain County
Growth Partnership***

Message from the Director

Dear Lorain County Resident:

The District began 2008 with the implementation of the new solid waste management plan. The most significant programmatic change in the new plan included the new volume based system grant criteria and requirements. During 2008, many communities began the conversion to the volume based system program. Residents in those communities received trash carts and in some communities residents also received recycling carts. The new volume based system grant and incentives created in the solid waste management plan encourages recycling and adds more materials to be recycled curbside including magazines, cardboard, junk mail and paperboard (cereal boxes). The tons of recycled materials collected in most of these communities increased significantly over the traditional blue bag program.

In 2008, our services and programs included the following:

HHW collection	Phone book collection	School Education Programs
Household battery collection	Fluorescent bulb and ballast	Revolving Loan Program
Electronics collections	Commercial paper recycling	Disaster Management Plan
Printer cartridge recycling	Specialized bottle/can collection	Commissioner's Litter Strike Force
Scrap tire collection	Mercury collection	Adopt-A-Spot Litter/Beautification
		Adopt-A-Highway Litter program

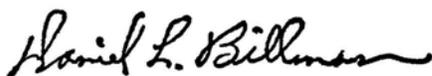
During 2008, Lorain County and other solid waste management districts around Ohio began to see a reduction in the tonnages disposed at the landfill. This reduction was due to several reasons including:

- A slow down in manufacturing due to the recent economic down-turn,
- Reduced consumption by our residents and businesses, and
- Successful diversion through new volume based recycling systems.

Again, this reduction in tonnage disposal is not unique to Lorain County, it is happening across the state and the country. A reduction in disposal due to our recycling programs is a positive sign and indicates that the programs initiated in our Plan are working. The District obtains funding for programming from the disposal of waste at the landfill. In particular, the District receives a majority of its funding from the waste that it receives from outside Lorain County.

In addition to the impacts of the economy, at the very end of 2008 Allied Waste Systems was bought by Republic Waste Services. This change is not just a change in company names. The solid waste marketplace in northeast Ohio will be changing with new players and competition which will be good for our residents. It should help keep trash and recycling at a reasonable cost for the region. However, this economic downturn and a potential new competitive marketplace may have a significant impact on District revenues. We will be watching how things develop in 2009 to determine funding levels for all of our programs. The preparation of our next Plan Update begins in September 2009 and may require significant adjustments to our program budgets.

This 2008 Annual Report contains information about many of successful programs and services. If you have questions or comments about any of this information we want to hear from you. Please call us at 1-800-449-5463.



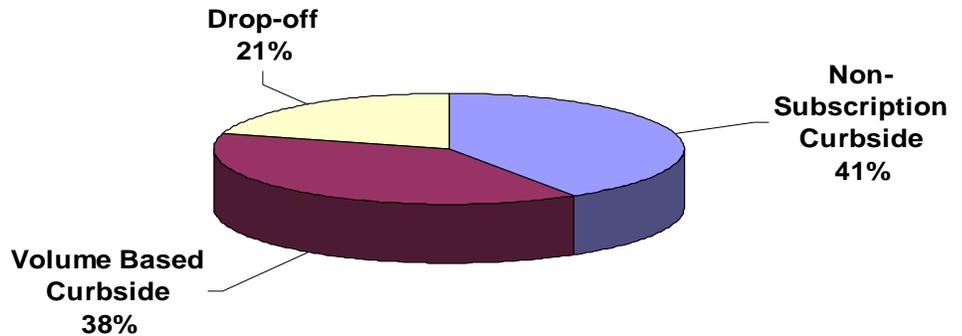
Dan Billman, District Director

Residential Recycling



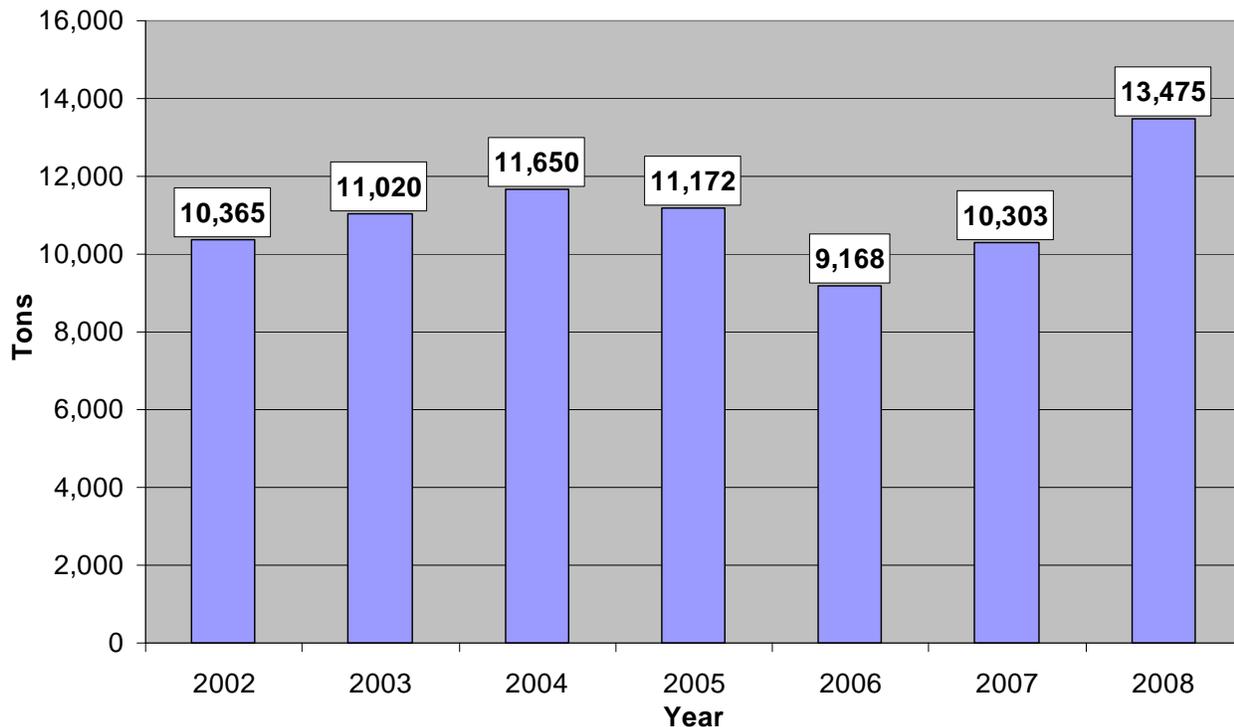
Lorain County residential recycling is conducted through curbside and drop-off programs. In 2008, the District had twenty-seven curbside and seven drop-off recycling programs. Thirteen of the twenty-seven curbside programs were volume based systems and fourteen were non-subscription curbside programs. The following pie chart depicts the distribution of recycling programs available to Lorain County residents:

Lorain County Residential Recycling Programs 2008



The District provides significant financial support for community recycling programs through an annual grant program. Each year nearly half the District's total gross income is distributed in grants to 34 local governments. These funds are used to help provide recycling to residents in Lorain County communities. The following graph depicts the level of residential recycling that Lorain County has been able to achieve as a direct result of the District's investment in local recycling programs.

Residential Recycling in Lorain County



The recycling report card on the next page shows the type of programs and materials collected for each community in 2008. How does your community compare?

Lorain County Recycling Report Card

Lorain County Community	Type of Recycling Program	Materials Accepted										2004 Tons	2005 Tons	2006 Tons	2007 Tons	2008 Tons
		AL	ST	GL	PL	ONP	OCC	T	W	OM	OTH					
City of Amherst	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	503	120	190	375	795
Amherst Township	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	231	340	277	192	330
City of Avon	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	633	795	151	885	908
City of Avon Lake	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	1,294	1,999	1,672	1,369	1,582
Brighton Township	Drop-off	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	9	32	23	24	56
Brownhelm Township	Drop-off	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	18	14	9	9	24
Camden Township	Drop-off	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	0	93	28	83	63
Carlisle Township	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	265	529	280	301	366
Columbia Township	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	264	273	454	449	323
Eaton Township	Drop-off	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	157	154	316	283	231
City of Elyria	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	2,832	1,514	1,176	857	2,275
Elyria Township	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	171	132	219	146	137
Village of Grafton	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	111	0	34	116	319
Grafton Township	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	111	169	134	100	181
Henrietta Township	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	74	77	68	190	136
Huntington Township	Drop-off	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	23	31	60	187	83
Village of Kipton	Drop-off Camden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	0	0	0	0	0
Village of LaGrange	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	73	68	61	107	77
LaGrange Township	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	176	52	81	43	146
City of Lorain	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	1,303	1,178	976	1,224	1,549
New Russia Township	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	103	67	51	77	39
City of North Ridgeville	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	1,314	1,360	1,223	1,562	1,515
City of Oberlin	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	507	426	263	609	824
Penfield Township	Drop-off	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	60	152	125	106	149
Pittsfield Township	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	73	94	62	62	57
Village of Rochester & Rochester Township	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	53	57	74	86	62
City of Sheffield Lake	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	379	684	543	202	309
Village of Sheffield	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	147	156	127	128	148
Sheffield Township	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	48	41	40	0	67
Village of S. Amherst	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	0	0	0	96	74
City of Vermilion	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	510	416	305	273	422
Village of Wellington	Weekly Curbside	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	169	126	115	124	188
Wellington Township	Volume Based	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	39	23	31	37	41
Total Tons												11,650	11,172	9,168	10,303	13,475

AL=Aluminum Containers; ST=Steel Containers; GL=Glass; PL=Plastic; ONP=Newspaper; OCC=Cardboard; T=Tires; W=Wood; OM=Other Metals; Oth=Other Materials

(Many communities have specialized collection events or programs in addition to their primary curbside or drop-off program listed above). This Recycling Report Card shows the type of programs and materials collected in each community from 2008. It also shows the total materials collected in the previous four years.



Has your community increased its recycling totals this year?

Program Promotion



Information Line & Reference Service

The District maintains a toll-free phone line ([1-800-449-5463](tel:1-800-449-5463)) to answer any questions regarding solid waste management. During normal business hours (8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday), the staff answers the line directly, or responds to messages as soon as possible. Messages may be left twenty-four hours a day, and they will be responded to on the next business day. During 2008, the District received over 5,000 calls on this phone line.

Any resident with a question about how to dispose of or recycle any type of solid waste, and especially hazardous materials, is encouraged to call. The District staff members who respond to inquiries on the line can also provide information about events and programs, put you in touch with your local government, or refer you to businesses and services to solve your solid waste problem. The District also maintains information about materials and products that are made with recycled content.

In 2008, all residents who call the District phone line were informed of the opportunity to receive an email poster created by the District promoting collection events. The use of email in 2008 was a cost effective way to expand the District's reach and will continue in the future.



Website

The District maintains several pages of information within the general website for the Lorain County government. The address is www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste. The web pages were improved in early 2009 and are updated with fresh information and new features regularly.

Newsletter

In 2008, the District mailed newsletters each quarter to interested residents and business owners. The newsletter provides information on collection events and other programs offered by the District. The newsletter is available free of charge, by postal mail, to any Lorain County resident or business. Anyone interested in a subscription should call the District at 1-800-449-5463 or visit the District website to sign-up.

Community Financial Support



Community Grants

The Lorain County Commissioners provide significant financial support for community recycling programs through an annual grant. Each year, the District distributes almost half of its annual gross income to the communities for use in their recycling programs. In 2008, the Commissioners awarded a total of \$1,506,282 to 34 Lorain County political subdivisions to assist with implementing curbside and drop-off recycling programs.

Commissioner Grants

The District Market Development Grant Program was developed to provide funding to special projects initiated by the Lorain County Commissioners. The Lorain County Commissioners awarded \$97,000 to five entities in the County in 2008. This funding was provided to upgrade County building materials made from recyclable materials.

The tables to the right and below summarize the grants by community, entity or institution.

Community Grant Recipient	Grant Amount
Amherst	\$ 68,106
Amherst Township	\$ 54,718
Avon	\$ 70,429
Avon Lake	\$ 86,412
Brighton Township	\$ 10,679
Brownhelm Township	\$ 11,208
Camden Township	\$ 11,015
Carlisle Township	\$ 36,413
Columbia Township	\$ 54,718
Eaton Township	\$ 34,702
Elyria	\$ 197,064
Elyria Township	\$ 32,891
Grafton Township	\$ 30,064
Grafton Village	\$ 29,652
Henrietta Township	\$ 14,158
Huntington Township	\$ 11,017
Kipton Village	\$ 5,456
LaGrange Township	\$ 33,224
LaGrange Village	\$ 13,901
Lorain	\$ 226,690
New Russia Township	\$ 14,804
North Ridgeville	\$ 107,378
Oberlin	\$ 57,215
Penfield Township	\$ 11,316
Pittsfield Township	\$ 13,548
Rochester Township	\$ 10,470
Rochester Village	\$ 5,282
Sheffield Lake	\$ 62,637
Sheffield Township	\$ 31,900
Sheffield Village	\$ 31,427
South Amherst Village	\$ 11,310
Vermillion	\$ 67,900
Wellington Village	\$ 12,816
Wellington Township	\$ 35,761
Total	\$ 1,506,282

Commissioner Grant Recipient	Grant Amount
Alcohol & Drug Addition Services Bldg. Upgrade	\$ 15,000
Lorain City School District Playground Project	\$ 32,000
Sheffield Lake City Schools Stadium Renovation	\$ 15,000
Sheffield Boat Launch Parking Lot	\$ 25,000
St. Mary School Playground Equipment	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 97,000

Special Collection Events and Programs



Household Hazardous Waste

The District continued its semi-annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections in 2008. The HHW event is the District's longest running and most popular collection event. For the third year in a row, the District conducted two HHW collection events. These events were held at the Lorain Community College, Joint Vocational School, Grafton Township Hall and PC Campana Industrial Park. The District employs a contractor capable of packaging and shipping every possible dry, wet, or gaseous product that cannot be legally deposited at the landfill and/or is not permitted in the waste water treatment system.

During the two HHW collection events, materials were collected from 3,973 vehicles. The District collected 218 tons (436,600 pounds) of harmful chemicals and other substances. Materials collected included: paint, chemicals, oil, batteries, fluorescent lamps and other hazardous items, all of which could cause serious environmental damage if not properly recycled or disposed.

If you missed these annual events, there are other options for proper disposal, use or reuse of these HHW materials. Please call our Information Line at **1-800-449-5463** or visit the District website: www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste for more information.



Phone Book Recycling Program

The District's Phone Book Recycling Program doubled the number of collection sites in 2008 and achieved an even higher level of participation than in previous years. The District continued to partner with CenturyTel and Burger King Restaurants to reward residents with a food coupon in return for dropping off their used phone books. In 2008, the Phone Book Collection Program collected 27 tons of phone books. This was a 4 tons increase over the total tons collected in 2007.



Scrap Tires

The District provides residents with several options for managing scrap tires to reduce their potential impact on our environment. Scrap tires improperly stored or disposed of can be a fire hazard and a breeding ground for mosquitoes. The mosquito-borne West Nile Virus is considered a serious health concern in Ohio.



Scrap Tire Permanent Sites:

Elyria City Service Garage (851 Garden St.)
Grafton Township Hall (17109 Avon-Belden Rd.)
Lorain City Service Garage (114 East 35th St.)
N. Ridgeville City Garage (35010 Bainbridge Rd.)

Please call 1-800-449-5463 for dates and times

In 2008, 331 tons (662,000 pounds) of scrap tires were collected and recycled during the one day collection and at the permanent drop-off sites.

All Lorain County residents can participate in the District's annual Scrap Tire Collection Day or drop off scrap tires throughout the year at one of the District's permanent sites. The annual event is held each spring in conjunction with Pride Day. The permanent sites are donated by local governments and paid for with District funds.

Household Battery Collection



The District continued its household battery collection program for the sixth straight year. This special program accepts all dry cell battery types and operates primarily within 17 schools in the Elyria City School District. The program has other volunteer participants which consist of local governments, businesses, and medical facilities.

Through this partnership with Elyria City Schools, the District collected 6 tons (12,000 pounds) of household batteries in 2008.

Printer Cartridge Recycling



The District partners with the Lorain County Office On Aging (LCOOA) on this project, and their substantial pool of volunteer talent provides the work force. The District provided the initial program design, the promotional materials, and the collection containers. LCOOA contributes the labor force to collect, sort, and ship the cartridges, and their office staff administers the operation. The payments received from the recycling vendor are used by LCOOA to help support their many efforts to aid senior citizens in Lorain County. The program is available to any business or organization that would like to participate. To be included, call the LCOOA at **440-326-4819**.

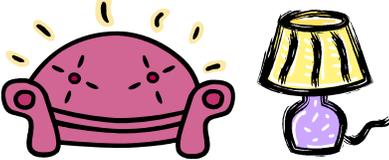
“E-SCRAP” Electronics Collection Program

In 2008, the District held four electronic equipment collection events. These E-Scrap collection events were started by Lorain County in 2002 to tackle the disposal problem for obsolete electronic equipment. The electronic equipment collected at these events can be refurbished and reused by schools or non-profit organizations. If it cannot be updated, then the metals and other components of electronic equipment should be recycled.



Some of the acceptable items include: computers, monitors, printers, televisions, cell phones, (including batteries, chargers and cables), copiers, fax machines, home stereos and selected other home electronics. The list of items collected has grown steadily each year. For a complete list of materials accepted, please call our Information Line at **1-800-449-5463** or visit the District website: www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste for more information.

This year the amount of E-Scrap collected increased by 9% over 2007. A total of 414,000 pounds (207 tons) of material was recycled in 2008, resulting once again in a new annual record.



Lorain County Furniture Bank

The Lorain County Furniture Bank is a recycling program for household goods and furniture that is operated through a partnership of local charitable organizations. All of their clients are referred by recognized social service agencies. Single items and large quantities of furniture are accepted. The District fully supports and encourages the efforts of LCFB as a primary means of recycling household goods by reusing them. To donate or volunteer call: 440-240-0089.



Appliance Recycling



Used or discarded appliances, including washers and dryers, refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners, can be very difficult to dispose of properly and in most cases are not accepted at normal curbside disposal services.

The District's Appliance Recycling Program includes targeted advertising in the Chronicle, the Lorain Journal and other weekly newspapers. The newspaper advertisements along with brochures and the District's monthly newsletter educate residents on the recycling options available in Lorain County.

Fluorescent Bulb and Ballast Recycling Program

The District continued to collect and recycle fluorescent and high intensity discharge (HID) lamps and their ballasts as well as compact fluorescent lamps (CFL's), which have become increasingly popular. In 2008, Lorain County recycled 60,000 lbs. of lamps and 19,000 lbs. of ballasts. This total of 79,000 lbs. is 29,000 lbs. more than the amount collected in 2007.



The collected material was then repackaged to conform to the EPA Universal Waste Rules, and transported to a certified recycling contractor in Cleveland, Ohio. The lamps are safely crushed and retorted to extract the mercury content, which is entirely reusable. The glass and metal parts are also recycled. Ballasts suspected of having PCB content are segregated and handled specially to properly dispose of their hazardous content. Other ballasts are shredded and the various metals extracted and recycled.

The fluorescent bulb recycling collection program is held at the Lorain County Warehouse located at 25 East Avenue in Elyria on the second Tuesday of every month from 10am-2pm. The opportunity to recycle is available to businesses, individuals and government agencies at no charge.

Other Collection Programs

Many of the communities in Lorain County sponsor special collection events and programs for their residents at various times of the year. In addition, each local government has different rules concerning curbside pickup of large items, such as appliances, furniture, large tree limbs, etc.

The best source of information about solid waste management at this level is the local service department or township clerk. Residents who are unsure of who to contact in their community are encouraged to call the District's Information Line at **1-800-449-5463** where you will be provided with the appropriate phone numbers and addresses.



The District also provides information about collection events on the District website:
www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste

Industrial/Commercial Recycling



Office Paper Recycling

There are now two ways for businesses to recycle their office paper in Lorain County. Abitibi Consolidated's Paper Retriever Program promotes recycling through the placement of green and yellow bins (at no cost) adjacent to schools, churches and other non-profit organizations. Small businesses may drop-off their office paper at these locations and the organization is paid for the recyclable paper collected in the bin. During 2008, the Abitibi drop-offs collected 3,949 tons of paper that was recycled. Businesses that produce larger volumes of office paper that would like to recycle are encouraged to participate in Allied/Republic's Workplace Recycling Program.



In addition to promoting these two programs, the District continued to implement its plan to provide containers to businesses and organizations that are willing to recycle their office paper. Containers for recycling bottles and cans were also issued to those with the ability and the willingness to use them.

Commercial & Industrial Recycling

Commercial 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. Interest is steadily growing in recycling electronics and computer ink jet cartridges. To further stimulate recycling activity in this sector, the District continues to offer two of its most successful programs, electronic recycling and fluorescent bulb and ballast recycling.

Industrial recycling refers primarily to the capture and 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. The economic advantages of this type of recycling is evident to those who operate manufacturing firms. In 2008, the industrial sector recycled 106,786 tons (213,572,000 pounds).

In 2008, the District developed plans for the formation of a business roundtable. A schedule and potential agenda topics were prepared and a mailer is set to go out in 2009. Additionally, the District developed the criteria for a recognition program for commercial and industrial businesses. The District intends to have the first annual awards for businesses in 2009.

The District continues to provide assistance to businesses by performing waste assessments. A waste assessment is a formal review of manufacturing operations designed to spotlight opportunities for waste reduction, reuse, or recycling. The District plans to continue to provide solid waste assessments in 2009. If you would like a free waste assessment call the District at 1-800-449-5463.

Public Events



Community Events

Throughout the year the District provides awareness and educational activities and makes presentations at local events and festivals. The District participated in the Elyria Apple Festival, Lorain Port Fest, Lorain International Fest, Vermilion River Watershed Festival, North Ridgeville Corn Festival, Labor Festival, LCCC Family Festival, Bendix Family Health Fair, Lorain County Senior Fest, and the Lorain County Fair by setting up an educational display booth. The District provided Lorain County residents informational brochures and answered questions. The District has 19 different brochures that cover topics ranging from collection events to recycling and source reduction.



Education and Awareness



Contests

The District held a Poem contest for all students in grades 5-6. A total of 283 students participated. The county was divided into 2 districts and there were winners for first, second, and third place chosen in each grade level from each district (12 winners in all). 1st place winners received a \$50 gift certificate, 2nd place winners received a \$40 gift certificate and 3rd place winners received a \$30 gift certificate to the local mall.

Every year The District holds a calendar contest for Lorain County students in grades 1-12. Students choose between recycling or litter prevention as the theme for their picture. Twelve drawings are chosen as winners and made into a calendar for the following year. Each winner receives a \$100 Savings Bond. The winning drawings were made into 5,000 calendars that were distributed at fairs, festivals and other District events.

In 2008, the District held a barrel painting contest in conjunction with 4-H clubs during the Lorain County Fair. Nineteen barrels were painted and decorated. There were three age groups with three winners each. The winners received \$75, \$50 and \$25 gifts for the first, second and third place winners.



Special Events

The District bused 580 students to Republic/Allied Lorain County Landfill for educational tours. The District also bused 450 students from the City of Oberlin to the Jones Farm to learn about food composting and other solid waste topics.

On August 14, 2008, the District had a booth at the Boy Scouts three day encampment that was attended by 3,500 scouts and their families. Approximately 185 scouts made ghosts out of household scraps and 200 parents visited the District's booth.



“Trash Talk”

The District prepared a quarterly publication for students in grades 4-6. “Trash Talk” featured articles about recycling, waste reduction, material reuse and litter prevention. In 2008, 14,000 copies of the newsletter were distributed to 4th, 5th and 6th graders.

Performances and Presentations

In 2008, various groups continued to perform assemblies for Lorain County students. The Illusion Maker performed his environmental magic and illusion show teaching the 3R's (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) at fifteen assemblies for 5,250 students.



Timothy Wenk performed fourteen “The Magic of Recycling” assemblies for 4,900 students. Doctor T conducted twelve assemblies for 4,550 students about trashology and recycling.



In addition, the District made 45 elementary school presentations reaching 1,631 students. The District staff also made eight adult presentations for 283 participants. Each presentation was specific for the audience age group and taught about recycling and litter prevention.

Litter Prevention Programs



Lorain County Pride Day

Lorain County Pride Day is an annual county-wide litter collection and beautification event. Although the event is promoted and sponsored by the District, each community is involved in the recruitment and scheduling of volunteers for the day's activities. In 2008, thousands of volunteers spent over 5,500 hours picking up and cleaning up 175 tons of trash. Eighteen more tons of trash was collected in 2008 than in 2007. Volunteers cleaned 69 miles of roadway, 171 acres of parkland, 12 miles of trails, 29 playgrounds and 6 miles of waterway.

The volunteers also collected 143 bags of recyclables and planted 64 trees (57 more than last year) and 251 flats of flowers. Not bad for a days work.

If you would like to participate in future pride day events, contact the District: [1-800-449-5463](tel:1-800-449-5463) to be put in touch with your community Pride Day representative.



Commissioners Litter Strike Team Litter Program

The “Litter Strike Team” was created to respond to problem areas throughout the county in a timely manner to stop the spread and accumulation of litter. It’s a proven fact that litter attracts litter. Neat and clean neighborhoods are less likely to become littered as opposed to neighborhoods in disarray. The “Strike Teams” also address litter magnets such as fence lines and railroad crossings. The removal of weeds in these areas traps and holds wind blown litter.



In 2008, the Litter Strike Team was comprised of two teams of four individuals. The two teams spent 1,409 man hours collecting 203 bags of trash, 8 tires and 4 pieces of miscellaneous appliances and furniture throughout eleven communities along various county roads.

Litter is misplaced solid waste such as bottles, packaging, cans paper, cigarette butts or anything else that is thrown, dropped or discarded inappropriately.

**It is our responsibility to discard our solid waste in a appropriate manner.
If we don't, solid waste becomes litter.**

Adopt-A-Roadway and Adopt-A-Spot Programs

The District has many partners when it comes to litter control in Lorain County. District funds are used to support the Adopt-A-Roadway Program, which is sponsored by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. In 2008, the District gave a grant to the Lorain County Engineer's Office to clean roads throughout the county.

Lorain County helps communities by funding, soliciting and recognizing volunteer groups that participate in the District's Adopt-A-Spot program. Parks, trails, beaches and even neighborhood ditches can be Adopt-A-Spot locations. Thousands of bags of litter and recyclables were picked up due to the efforts of volunteer groups committing to adopt a piece of Lorain County.

A site that is litter free is less likely to be littered.

Yard Waste Program



Composting Programs

Approximately nineteen percent (19%) of the residential/commercial waste in Lorain County was yard waste in 2008. Leaves, grass clippings and brush are materials that do not belong in our landfills. Most of our communities have leaf and grass clipping collection programs. In Lorain County, we have 12 compost facilities registered with the Ohio EPA. Approximately 30,000 tons of yard waste was managed at these facilities in 2008. Kurtz Bros. in Avon managed the most material, approximately 24,000 cubic yards or 8,000 tons.

When yard waste is collected, it is then placed in piles called windrows. The piles are turned in regular intervals and within several weeks to a couple of months the yard waste becomes a useful soil amendment for landscapers and homeowners.



Reducing Yard Waste Generation

There are several easy ways 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 in 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 440-326-5856 for more details.
- ◆ Participate in the yard waste collection program offered by your community.

Home Composting

Residents of Lorain County are encouraged by the District to create their own compost bin or pile. Compost makes soil loose and dark, helps retain water, fertilizes and makes plants grow better. Yard waste and fruit and vegetable scraps may be placed in compost.

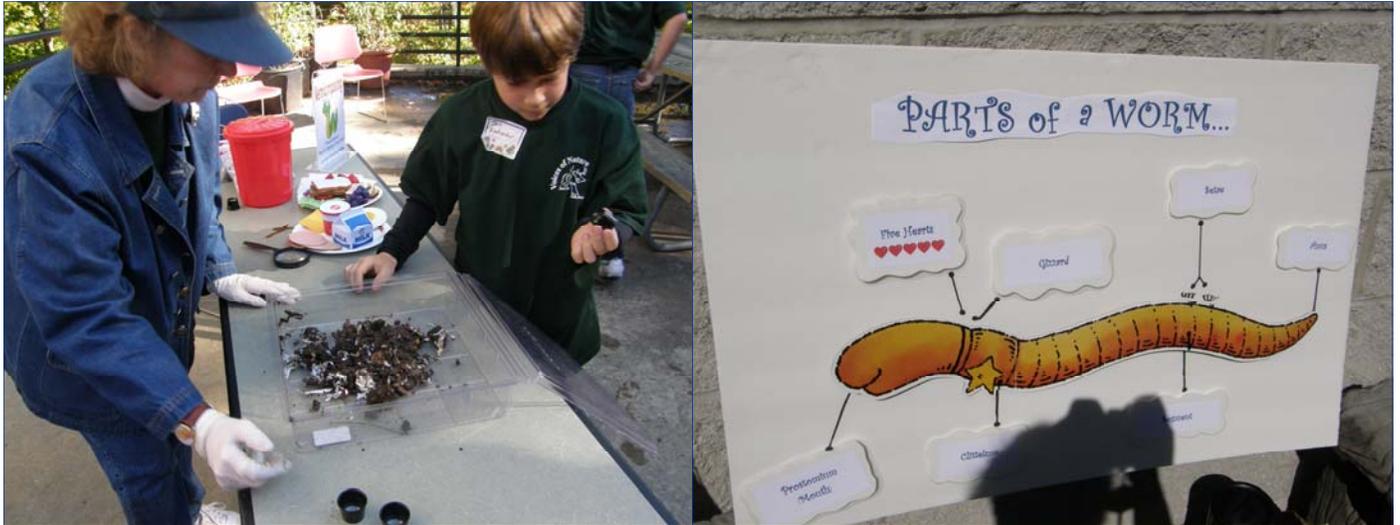
For questions and assistance please contact the District: **1-800-449-5463**



Worm Composting

The District's compost education program continued in 2008. In addition to the "Don't Bag It" campaign, the District focused on educating District residents about worm composting, also called vermiculture composting.

In 2008, the District participated in the environmental science fair which included 350 Lorain County students from the talented and gifted program. The District did presentations for 116 students on vermiculture composting.



Boat and Greenhouse Shrink Wrap Program

In 2008, the District continued to support the efforts of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Office of Coastal Management, on the Ohio Sea Grant Clean Marinas Program. The Ohio Clean Marinas Program is a proactive partnership designed to encourage marinas and boaters to use simple, innovative solutions to keep Ohio's coastal and inland waterway resources clean. In 2007, the Program was expanded to include the entire Lake Erie coastline. The District has brochures available to advertise the Ohio Clean Marina Program. Marinas are encouraged to participate in the Program by choosing to recycle boat shrink-wrap. Greenhouse shrink wrap is also accepted and greenhouses are encouraged to participate.



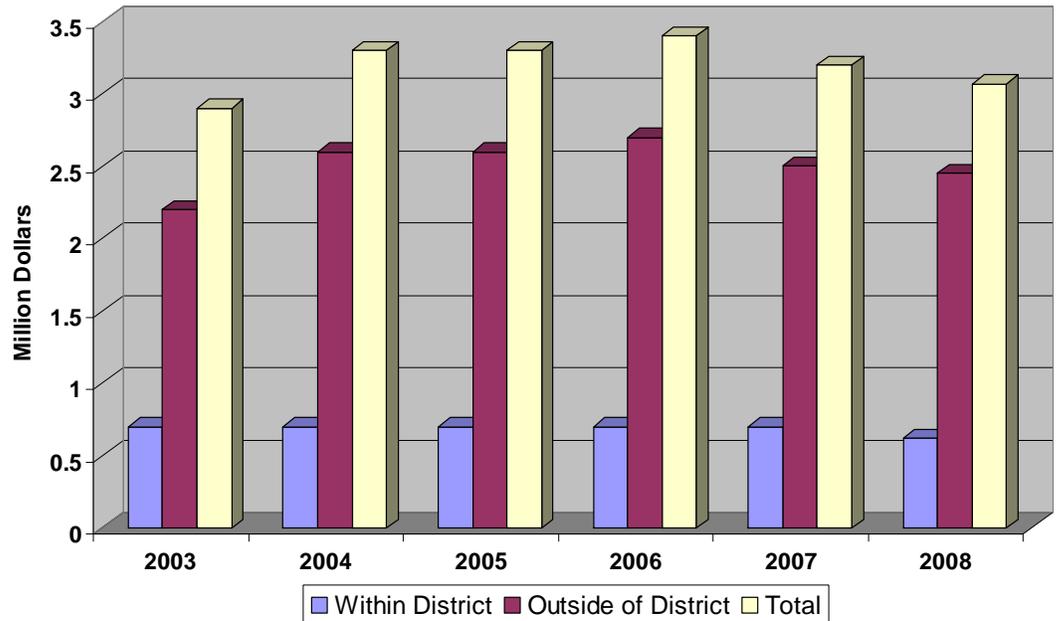
Financial Information



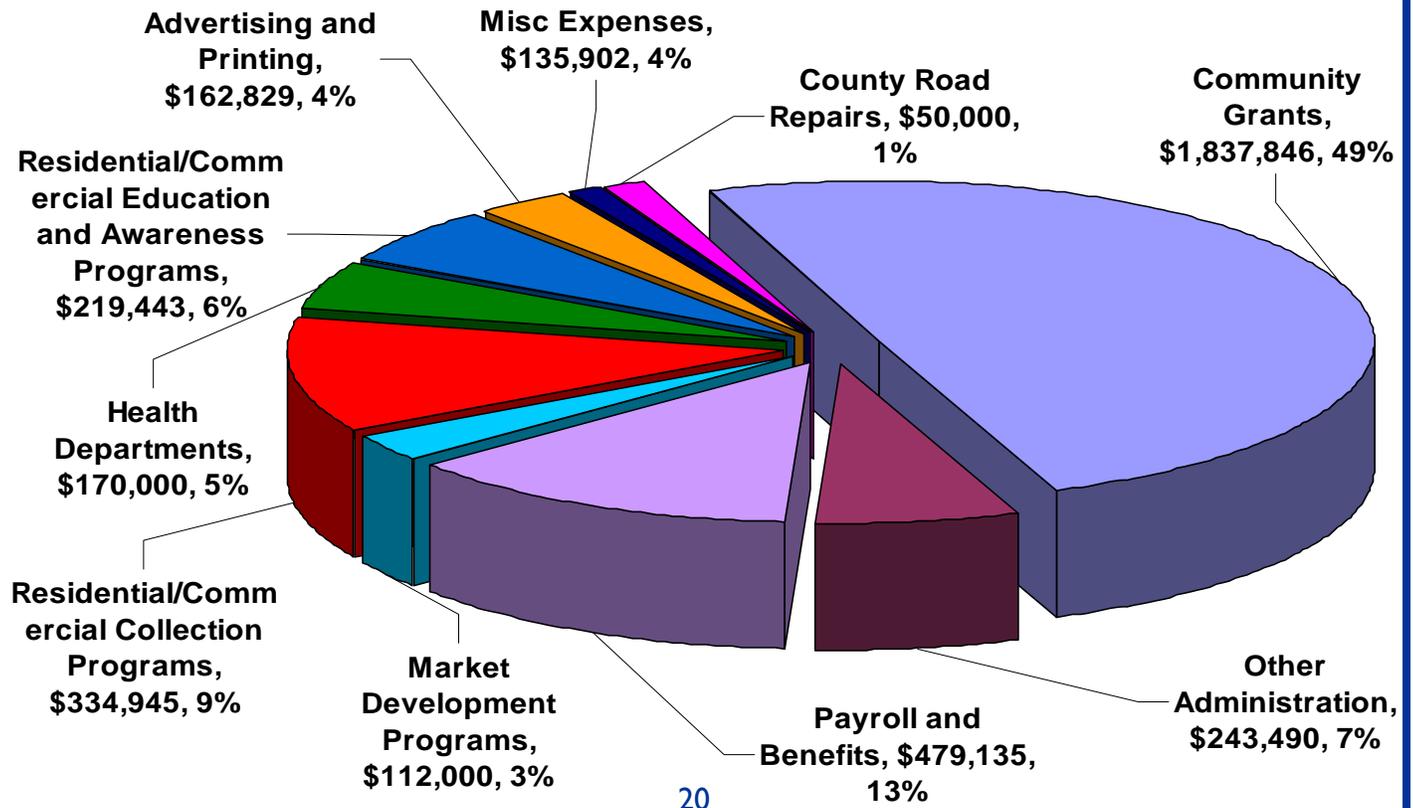
Revenues

The District receives its funding from a \$2.00 per ton tipping fee for Lorain County Solid Waste and a \$4.00 per ton tipping fee for waste coming in from outside the County. In 2008, the District received \$627,586 from Lorain County and approximately \$2.5 million from outside the District.

2008 District Revenues



2008 District Expenses



Future Activities



March 21, 2009 marked the twentieth anniversary of the formation of the Lorain County Solid Waste Management District. Since that time, recycling in Lorain County has become a multifaceted activity carried out by governments at all levels, by private businesses and non-profit organizations. It accounts for the employment of hundreds of workers within Lorain County, and is also supported by many active volunteers and private citizens. The District extends its gratitude to all those who understand and act upon the inherent logic of “Reduce-Reuse-Recycle.”

The District continues to research and develop new programs and enhance current activities for Lorain County. New programs initiated in 2008 that may be available in your community soon include:

- ◆ A volume based curbside trash and recycling program;
- ◆ A disaster debris management program;
- ◆ A community recognition program was under development for top recycling communities;
- ◆ An expanded web presence for solid waste management;
- ◆ A program called Re-TRAC to collect waste and recycling data from communities;
- ◆ A commercial and industrial recognition program was under development to reward top business recyclers; and
- ◆ A business round table is being planned to increase cooperative recycling efforts in the business community.

For More Information Contact:

**Lorain County Solid Waste Management District
226 Middle Avenue
Elyria, Ohio 44035-5510**

**Office: (440)329-5440
Fax:(440)329-5777**

**Information Line: 1-800-449-5463
www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste**

Lorain County Commissioners

Commissioner Lori Kokoski
Commissioner Ted Kalo
Commissioner Betty Blair

James R. Cordes, County Administrator



Lorain County Solid Waste Management District
A Department of
The Lorain County Commissioners
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