

Why Plan for Solid and Hazardous Waste?

Washington citizens, businesses and governments have made big improvements in our waste management practices over the years. But we aren't done yet. We still throw away valuable recyclables and other resources. Toxic substances are still common in many products. And we still produce a lot of waste – made with and from finite natural resources. Wasting these resources is not sustainable in the long term.

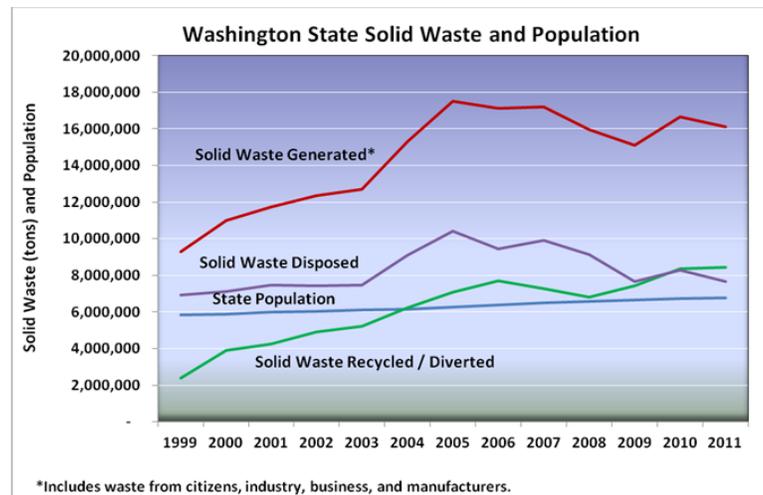
As we improve our waste management systems, we sometimes hit bumps in the road that need fixing. Planning for solid and hazardous waste allows us to continue to advance Washington State's waste management. **One of the biggest improvements we can make is to reduce the amount of waste and toxics we need to manage.**

It's All Connected....

Reducing wastes and toxics has many benefits.

It saves money for consumers, local

governments, and businesses. It conserves natural resources, and protects our health and the environment. As we reduce wastes and toxics, we help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect Washington waters from toxics in storm water run-off -- two key priorities for Washington State.



2014 - Time for a State Plan Update

Similar to the local planning jurisdictions, the state of Washington is required to have a Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste Plan and update it regularly. The plan's purpose is to guide waste prevention and management in the state.

We are beginning the process of updating the current State Plan (the 2009 Beyond Waste Plan) and need your help! What lessons have been learned in the last five years? Are there new issues or approaches to include in the updated plan? Our goal is to represent the statewide system, in all its diversity, make the plan more user-friendly, and stay on track to achieve the vision of reducing waste and toxics, while safely managing what waste remains. This reflects the waste management hierarchy established in state law (*RCW 70.95 and RCW 70.105*). We seek stakeholder input to guide us on the plan update.

How to Get Involved

Join the Listserv:

<http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?AO=WA-STATE-WASTE-PLAN>

Go to the Website:

www.ecy.wa.gov/wasteplan

Contact:

Janine Bogar, Waste 2 Resources Program (Solid waste)
janine.bogar@ecy.wa.gov;
 360-407-6654

Chris Chapman, Hazardous waste & Toxics Reduction Program
chris.chapman@ecy.wa.gov;
 360-407-7160

NOTE: we will also use input gathered in 2010-2011 in the solid waste laws update process available [here](#).

The Current State Solid & Hazardous Waste Plan (Beyond Waste)

Washington State's current Solid and Hazardous Waste Plan is known as the *Beyond Waste* Plan. It was released in November 2004, and updated in 2009, with input from businesses, local governments and the public. The 2014 update will build on this plan and the good work being done across the state.

Beyond Waste Initiatives

The current plan addresses key initiatives of large volume or high risk wastes, including hazardous products, organic materials, and construction and demolition debris. It also addresses measuring progress and current solid and hazardous waste system issues. Each initiative has 30-year Goals and Recommended Actions, as well as five-year Milestones.

Beyond Waste Vision

We can transition to a society where wastes are viewed as inefficient and where most wastes and toxic substances have been eliminated. This will contribute to environmental, economic and social vitality.

Below is a summary of the current content of the state plan, and our starting point. We intend to adjust and improve on these initiatives as we update the state solid and hazardous waste plan for 2014.

- **Eliminate industrial waste through partnerships with industry sectors:**
 - Pollution Prevention planning to reduce toxics from business sectors that produce hazardous wastes.
 - Focus on chemicals of concern, such as mercury and other persistent bio-accumulative toxins (PBTs).
 - Encourage green chemistry and product design solutions.
- **Reduce hazardous wastes from small businesses and households:**
 - Focus on priority substances including flame retardants, electronics, and pesticides.
 - Implement and promote environmentally preferred purchasing.
- **Increase reuse and recycling of organic materials:**
 - Increase residential and commercial organics recovery programs supported by processing capacity.
 - Develop new processing technologies for organic wastes, such as bio-energy.
- **Make green-building the norm in Washington:**
 - Increase use of non-toxic building materials recycling and reuse of construction and demolition debris.
 - Provide and promote statewide commercial and residential green building programs.
- **Measure progress toward the Beyond Waste vision:**
 - Improve data gathering so we can measure our progress.
 - Develop and hone indicators and progress reports.
- **Current hazardous waste system issues:**
 - Improve pollution prevention planning, compliance with dangerous waste regulations, and operations and corrective action at hazardous waste facilities.
- **Current solid waste system issues:**
 - Help local governments plan for Beyond Waste, including better ways to finance the solid waste system, increase recycling, and better manage waste disposal facilities, both old and new.

More information can be found on the [Beyond Waste website](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste) (www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste) including a [progress report](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste/bwprog_front.html) (http://www.ecy.wa.gov/beyondwaste/bwprog_front.html) with indicators that measure statewide progress.

Addendum for meeting participants

Please Give Us Your Input

Thank you for taking time to comment on the state plan. We appreciate your responses to the following questions.

- 1) “What do you need in the state solid and hazardous waste plan to make it *most useful* for you and your community?”
- 2) “Thinking of an ideal solid and hazardous waste management system, statewide or in your area, what are some key elements and actions to include in the plan update, *especially for the next five years?*”*

**Clarifying points:*

- Waste management includes prevention, reduction, recycling and disposal. It also includes reducing the use of toxic substances.
 - Actions can be short or long term, and can address any or all of Washington’s waste management stakeholders.
 - Actions can be specific, e.g. “Public spaces have clearly-marked recycling bins alongside garbage bins.” Or broad, e.g. “Manufacturers use less toxic chemicals in children’s products.”
 - It may help to think about what materials/wastes will be generated in the future, how they will be collected, where they will go, how the system will be financed, etc.
- 3) Do you have any overall advice for the Department of Ecology for this plan update?

How Will We Use Your Input?

We’ll summarize the input we receive and use your input to draft initial proposed changes to the state plan. At that point, we’ll contact you again to provide a second round of input on the draft. Overall, we anticipate you’ll have three rounds of input before the plan is complete in late 2014. To stay informed of all input and review opportunities, sign up for our listserv.

For More Information

- If you have additional input on the plan update, you may use the survey tool on the website at www.ecy.wa.gov/wasteplan.
- Sign up for our listserv: <http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?A0=WA-STATE-WASTE-PLAN>
- Additional questions or comments? Contact us:
 - Janine Bogar, Waste 2 Resources Program (solid waste)
janine.bogar@ecy.wa.gov; 360-407-6654
 - Chris Chapman, Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program
chris.chapman@ecy.wa.gov; 360-407-7160
 - WA State Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Special accommodations

If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Waste 2 Resources Program at 360-407-6900. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.