

Nothing can happen without you

You need to do your part

Ecology will use the information it already has to begin loading the database. Additional information will come from Final Performance Analysis Forms (FPA) for Coordinated Prevention Grant-funded projects.

It shouldn't stop there. This tool is only as accurate and useful as the information you provide. Other local governments would greatly benefit from learning about your endeavors, the resources developed and whether or not the projects are CPG funded. The time you spend contributing to the Clearinghouse will provide countless hours of benefits to your peers in other counties, who will return the favor. In the end, everyone will benefit.

There are great stories and information out there - and you can share them

When the system is online, here's what you can do:

- 📌 **Fill out** the Information Clearinghouse project information analysis form, same as FPA forms in the CPG guidelines, for projects that are not included in your current CPG grant.
- 📌 **Verify** that your county profile information is up-to-date and accurate.
- 📌 **Share** resources and tools you find useful.
- 📌 **Post** training and events you feel your peers would benefit from.

Project Timeline

The system is being developed by Ecology's Information Technology staff with direction from a group of local-government representatives and Ecology employees. The goal is to have most of the site functional and ready to use by early 2007. FPA reports for CPG funded projects are not due until February 15, 2008.

For More Information

If you want to learn more about the Information Clearinghouse, provide feedback, or have questions, please contact *Shelly McMurry*, project coordinator, at 360-407-6223 or smcc461@ecy.wa.gov.



If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call Ecology's Solid Waste & Financial Assistance Program at 360-407-6900. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.

information CLEARINGHOUSE

WASHINGTON SOLID WASTE
INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM

Opening the door to your information needs



WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY

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Have you ever started a project wondering if others have done the same or similar work and could share what they learned with you? With the experience of others, maybe you wouldn't have to start that educational brochure from scratch!

Re-creating the wheel can be exhausting and inefficient. Finally, a computer-based tool is coming that will compile all of this information in one accessible place that's just a mouse click away.

The Information Clearinghouse is coming soon

Local planning and health jurisdictions, non-profit solid waste organizations, and professionals with the Department of Ecology soon will be able to access information about solid waste projects* in Washington state. Although these groups will be the main audiences for the site, certain elements of the Information Clearinghouse will be open to the public.



* Solid waste projects include waste reduction and recycling activities and enforcement of solid-waste codes.

What's in it for you?

With Washington's Information Clearinghouse you can:

- 🔍 **Take advantage of research**, such as demographics, contacts, lists of solid waste activities, planning status, what and where citizens can recycle, disposal data, household hazardous-waste collection, and information about solid waste facilities. Local governments will have access to online reporting for their Coordinated Prevention Grants (CPG).
- 🔍 **Find out** the status of county and city projects, facility information, waste generation, recycling and disposal figures, litter collection efforts, and Ecology funded solid waste grants, such as CPG, Public Participation Grants and eventually Community Litter Cleanup Program Grants.
- 🔍 **Learn from others' successes** with a searchable database of local government and nonprofit project descriptions, approaches, resources, results and contacts.
- 🔍 **Find useful resources**, such as materials prepared for public education and outreach, Web sites, books and organizations your peers suggest.
- 🔍 **Discover** what helps local governments do their jobs, such as best-management practices, studies, procedures, survey and evaluation tools, sample contracts, ordinances and resolutions.
- 🔍 **Search the system** for solid waste professionals and their expertise, a calendar of conferences, meetings and training opportunities, available jobs, and surplus materials.

Benefits of the Information Clearinghouse

- 🔍 Helps tell the story of solid waste in Washington.
- 🔍 Explains the Coordinated Prevention Grant program and its value.
- 🔍 Provides easy-to-find information.
- 🔍 Provides inspiration and opportunity to showcase local programs.
- 🔍 Facilitates learning from others' successes (and even their mistakes).
- 🔍 Archives and provides institutional memory for the state and local governments.
- 🔍 Eliminates "re-creation of the wheel" and broadens your resource pool.
- 🔍 Helps managers shorten the learning curve for new employees.
- 🔍 Keeps smaller counties feeling more connected and less isolated.
- 🔍 Gives that "fresh from a conference feeling" anytime you need some inspiration or new approaches.

