

RESOLUTION of the McLEAN COUNTY BOARD
AMMENDING AND APPROVING THE
FIVE YEAR UPDATE OF THE
INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act, McLean County adopted an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling act requires that Illinois Counties update and review the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan every five years; and

WHEREAS, the Five Year Update of the McLean County Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the Five Year Update of the McLean Solid Waste Management Plan has been reviewed and approved by the Solid Waste Technical Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use and Development, at its regular meeting on Thursday September 6, 2012, recommended approval of the Five Year Update of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, now, therefore,

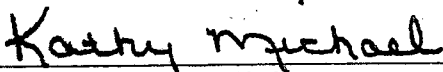
BE IT RESOLVED by the McLean County Board as follows;

- (1) The McLean County Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan is hereby amended to include the Five Year Update of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.
- (2) The Five Year Update of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan is hereby approved and a copy of the Five Year Update of the Solid Waste Management Plan shall be forwarded to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, in accordance with the provisions of the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act.
- (3) The County Clerk is hereby directed to provide a certified copy of this Resolution to the McLean County Regional Planning Commission, the Director of Building and Zoning, the County Administrator and the First Civil Assistant State's Attorney.

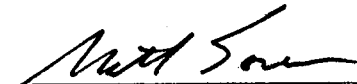
ADOPTED by the McLean County Board this 18th day of September 2012.

ATTEST:

APPROVE:



Kathy Michael, County Clerk
McLean County, Illinois



Matt Sorensen, Chairman
McLean County Board

2012

**McLean County, Illinois
Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan
Five-Year Update**



Prepared by the Ecology Action Center

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McLean County, Illinois

Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan

Five-Year Update, 2012

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Plan Adoption Date:	October 1991
Plan Re-Adoption Date:	October 1992
First Plan Update Adoption Date:	October 1997
Second Plan Update Adoption Date:	December 2002
Third Plan Update Adoption Date:	October 2007
Fourth Plan Update Due:	October 2012

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Introduction

Purpose of the 2012 ISWMP Update

The 2012 Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (the “ISWMP”) five-year update presents McLean County’s strategy for managing the solid waste disposal and recycling services over the next five years. The Illinois Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act requires Illinois counties to prepare, adopt, and implement a twenty-year municipal solid waste management plan. The Act also requires that the adopted plans be reviewed and updated every five years. At each five-year interval, any necessary or appropriate revisions are to be submitted to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for review and comments.

This 2012 five-year plan update is submitted in fulfillment of the IEPA requirements for the next scheduled update. It is the fourth such update to the McLean County ISWMP, which was adopted in October of 1991, and re-adopted in October of 1992. In 1997, the Solid Waste Coordinator of McLean County prepared a five-year update that satisfied the IEPA five-year update requirement. In 2002, the McLean County Regional Planning Commission prepared the second five-year update that satisfied the IEPA five-year update requirement. The 2007 ISWMP update was prepared by the Ecology Action Center for McLean County, which acts as the solid waste agency for the community including providing a Solid Waste Coordinator. The 2012 ISWMP was also prepared by Ecology Action Center staff, acting as Solid Waste Coordinator for McLean County.



ISWMP Executive Summary

After detailed evaluation of the waste management option available in McLean County, the ISWMP emphasized that what was adopted in October of 1992 had the following key elements:

1. Expansion of commercial and industrial recycling throughout McLean County.
2. Substantial expansion of residential recycling through a combined program of curbside collection and drop-off centers.
3. Continued composting and land application of landscaping waste.
4. Increased source reduction through an active educational and promotional program.
5. Development of opportunities for the recycling of construction and demolition waste.
6. Continued land application of sludge from wastewater treatment facilities.
7. Evaluated options for the separate collection and disposal of household hazardous wastes.
8. Increased opportunities for the recycling of bulky waste, tires, and motor oil.
9. Landfill disposal of wastes that are neither recycled or combusted.

The 1997 update reflected a change in policy concerning the privately owned and operated landfill located in Bloomington, Illinois. The plan was amended to not take any action toward the siting of a new landfill, nor discourage another party from siting a new landfill or expanding the existing landfill by opening a new cell and expanding vertically. In fact, in 2006, the landfill owners, Allied Waste, applied for permits to expand the Bloomington landfill. The 2002 update did not contain any major policy change, but reflected funding for a number of new recycling programs that were initiated as money became available. The 2007 update increased the recycling goal to 40%. As this goal has not yet been met, the current update maintains this goal with seven recommendations for expanding recycling in the effort to reach this goal in addition to the current Plan Implementation program provided by the Ecology Action Center.



I. Recommendations and Implementation Schedule Contained in the Plan Adopted October 1991

A. Source Reduction

ISWMP Recommended Implementation Efforts and Schedule

The ISWMP recommends that the source reduction component of the County's system be implemented immediately following creation and staffing of the County Solid Waste Coordinator position. This position is to direct the solid waste program and encourage source reduction and recycling in the residential, commercial, and industrial sectors. Additionally, formation of an advisory committee of representatives from the aforementioned sectors of McLean County was recommended. It is the responsibility of the solid waste coordinator and advisory committee to address the recommendation efforts associated with source reduction provided below. The Plan recommends that the source reduction component be implemented immediately following the creation and staffing of the County solid waste coordinator position.

Recommended Source Reduction Efforts

- Implement a comprehensive education and promotion program, which will educate residents on household hazardous wastes, the benefits of purchasing materials with recycled content, and inform residents of opportunities to recycle.
- Implement an education program that focuses on the commercial and industrial sectors of McLean County.
- Utilize existing social and educational networks serving county residents to carry forth the education and promotion programs.
- Communicate the message of the education programs through presentations, brochures, newsletters, videotapes, media coverage of promotional events, and displays at civic events and shopping centers.
- Use professional multimedia advertising campaigns during the third and fifth year to aggressively promote participation in recycling to ensure the County reaches the state's recycling rates as mandated in Public Act 85-1198. This Act requires that each county waste management plan be designed to recycle 15 percent and 25 percent of the municipal waste generated in the county by the end of the third and fifth years of the program, respectively.
- Offer source reduction technical assistance to commercial and industrial programs, including waste stream audits and source reduction programs. Disseminate information via manuals, brochures, videos, newsletter articles, presentations, on-site technical assistance, and an annual awards program.
- Offer information to the public through a solid waste information center.



B. Recycle and Reuse

ISWMP Recommended Implementation Efforts and Schedule

The ISWMP recommends implementation of the recycling and reuse component to immediately follow the creation and staffing of the solid waste coordinator position. The solid waste coordinator should coordinate overall implementation of recycling and reuse efforts and monitor their overall progress. Initial focus should concentrate on increasing participation by the commercial and industrial sectors in existing recycling programs. Recommendations associated with recycling and reuse to be addressed by the solid waste coordinator are listed in the chart below.

Recommended Recycle and Reuse Efforts

- Encourage residential recycling by working with existing recycling operations and establishing a public awareness of the need for recycling through the comprehensive educational program.
- Implement curbside recycling in the cities of Bloomington and Normal.
- Evaluate high potential areas for curbside recycling expansion and the potential for a county-owned recycling processing facility.
- Increase the County tipping fee surcharge at the Sexton Landfill (now Allied) and offer grants to individual municipalities or public interest groups.
- Expand the existing drop-off program through an independent contractor or at the County level by the solid waste coordinator.
- Have a drop-off program within an acceptable distance for 75 percent of the County population.
- Identify commercial and industrial operations to be targeted for education and technical assistance. Identify an additional 5 percent of the commercial and industrial waste stream that could be recycled.
- Provide technical assistance to the commercial and industrial sectors in the form of waste audits and educational and promotional materials.
- Shift emphasis to residential recycling if the desired commercial and industrial recycling rate is not achieved.



C. Combustion

The ISWMP includes no specific goals for expanding combustion of municipal solid waste. The addition of small scale commercial and industrial combustion operations would be consistent with the plan, providing required permits are obtained.

D. Disposal in Landfills

ISWMP Recommended Implementation Efforts and Schedule

The ISWMP recommends that the landfilling component of the County's system receive immediate attention in order to keep landfilling as a disposal option and as a funding mechanism for the solid waste program. The specific recommendations associated with landfill disposal follow under *Recommended Landfill Disposal Efforts* below.

Recommended Landfill Disposal Efforts

- Landfilling of residual solid waste not recycled, composted, or combusted will continue at the Bloomington Landfill and at landfills outside of the County.
- Additional landfill capacity will be considered beyond the life of the Bloomington site.

	Phase	Activity
1991 (3 months)	1	Develop County criteria and determine ownership
1991 (6 to 12 months)	2	Select and rank sites
1991 (6 to 12 months)	3	Property Negotiations
1992 to 1994	4	Preliminary investigation (24 months) and local approval process
1994 (3 months)	5	Prepare financial planning
1994 (6 months)	6	State approval process
1995 (6 months)	7	Prepare specifications and bid documents
1995 (6 months)	8	Construction
1996	9	Begin operation
1997		American Disposal (now Allied Waste) takes over operation of landfill
2002		Efforts to site a new landfill are no longer actively pursued
2006		Allied permitted to expand Bloomington landfill
2016		Anticipated closure of the McLean County Landfill #2



II. Current Plan Implementation Efforts

A. Plan Implementation

An educational and promotional program to promote source reduction, reuse, and recycling was established in 1992. In 1998, the Ecology Action Center (EAC) was contracted to provide promotional and educational services to the McLean County Solid Waste Program. The contract was renewed in 2004, 2007, and 2010 and will be up for renewal again at the end of 2013.

The EAC provides the following services:

- maintains a solid waste information center open 40 hours/week and by appointment for telephone and walk-in information and a specialized library with materials for teachers, businesses, and students of all ages about solid waste reduction and other environmental issues;
- writes and illustrates instructions for residents on how to recycle;
- EarthSchools hands-on recycling classes at all McLean County Schools to promote residential recycling;
- creates and presents educational displays;
- develops and distributes public information guides;
- maintains an internet site with comprehensive recycling, reuse, and HHW information;
- updates recycling and reuse information on www.Earth911.com and other internet sites;
- designs and distributes written materials to motivate recyclers;
- writes and distributes publicity as necessary;
- after school recycling education programs;
- recycling programs at the Children's Discovery Museum
- summer recycling programs for day camps;
- 3-R's program for libraries throughout the County summer reading programs;
- coordinates the American Recycles Day event in McLean County and accompanying activities;
- attends festivals to distribute recycling information and provide recycling activities;
- provides a speaker to community groups as requested;
- provides two newsletters per year to McLean County residents for download via the EAC website;
- provides two email newsletters per year to McLean County schools;
- provides free EAC Action News email newsletter to any resident wishing to subscribe;
- facilitates submission of grant proposals by local businesses and schools and applies for relevant grants for McLean County, such as solid waste planning grants and/or recycling grants;
- offers the McLean County Recycling and Waste Reduction Awards Program,
- provides adult workshops such as composting and vermicomposting;
- coordinates nontraditional recycling programs for household batteries and CFLs;
- administers the plastic garden pot recycling program;
- promotes reuse through McLean County Freecycle including special Freecycle events;
- coordinates local HHW collection events with the IEPA;
- reviews waste facility site applications as needed;
- annually determines McLean County's MSW generation rate and recycling rate;
- and facilitates the meetings of the McLean County Solid Waste Technical Committee.



B. 2007 ISWMP Recommendations Implemented

1. Develop a program for recycling gardening or nursery plastics.

The Ecology Action Center, in partnership with the McLean County Master Gardeners, launched a plastic garden pot recycling program in 2008. Staffed by volunteers, the program collects plastic garden pots through drop-offs at local garden centers. Approximately 8.5 tons of plastic garden pots are recycled each year, earning revenue to help support the program.

2. Develop a Compact Fluorescent Light recycling program.

In 2008, in partnership with the Town of Normal and City of Bloomington, the Ecology Action Center created a CFL recycling program with multiple drop-offs in the community for residents to utilize. A grant from the McLean County Solid Waste Fund covered start-up costs and the ongoing recycling fees for the program to-date.

3. Investigate the possibility of locating a permanent Household Hazardous Waste drop-off facility in McLean County.

The EAC researched the issue of a permanent HHW facility in 2009 for consideration by the McLean County Solid Waste Technical Committee. The committee expressed an interest in a small scale feasibility study to identify need, estimated volume of materials to be collected, capital costs, operating costs, and maintenance costs. Commissioning of this study was ultimately deferred due to budget restrictions within the McLean County Solid Waste Fund. The committee later learned that Peoria County in partnership with Area Disposal is developing a HHW Collection Facility; the committee is optimistic about the potential to have access to this facility for McLean County residential HHW.

Meanwhile, given the absence of state funding for a local HHW collection event in McLean County for nearly five years, in late 2011 the EAC spearheaded a public/private partnership to raise the necessary funds for a locally funded HHW collection event to be held in September 2012.



Recommendations Implemented (continued)

4. A community-wide recycling assessment to look for opportunities for recycling expansion.

The EAC recruited a sociology graduate class through Illinois State University's Stevenson Center to conduct community-wide recycling assessment in the fall of 2011. The class spent the entire semester focused on this project. They collected statistically valid data concerning the motivation of area residents to recycle and barriers against it. Among other findings, the study revealed strong support for curbside recycling in both Bloomington and Normal in addition to strong demand for Household Hazardous Waste collection, even with an additional fee to residents.

5. Educate small and rural communities about proper disposal of building material and encourage building reuse through cooperative programs.

The Ecology Action Center developed educational materials on local building material reuse programs including the Old House Society and the Habitat for Humanity ReStore in 2010. However, these materials were not printed or distributed at that time because EAC became aware of a new construction and demolition recycling facility (Henson Disposal) about to open in the area. The facility was opened in late 2011; the educational brochures have recently been updated and printed and are being distributed to the public.

The Ecology Action Center also created a partnership between local agencies during the 2012 student move-out from Illinois State University at the end of the semester. This partnership sought to increase reuse of usable materials normally discarded by students moving home. While a not significant amount of materials was collected this year, the foundation for a better effort in following years was created.



Additional Efforts Implemented

1. Thermostat Recycling Program

In 2012, the Town of Normal began offering free recycling of mercury thermostats to all residents of McLean County at its Public Works offices.

2. ISU/Midwest Fiber Food Waste Composting Program

In January of 2011, Midwest Fiber began offering food scrap composting services to businesses in Bloomington-Normal in partnership with the Illinois State University Farm in Lexington. Over one million pounds of food waste were diverted from the landfill in the first year of the program.

3. Establishment of a new Construction and Demolition Recycling Facility

Henson Disposal opened the first construction and demolition recycling facility in downstate Illinois in October 2011. The facility accepts mixed or segregated materials including shingles, wood, drywall, metals, aggregate, vinyl siding, cardboard, and paper products.

4. Successful Battery Recycling Program Continues

The household battery recycling program initiated in 2003 continues to grow with more users and greater volumes of batteries recycled. To-date, 106,000 pounds of batteries have been recycled.

5. Growth of Electronics Recycling Programs

While the Town of Normal has long offered electronics recycling free to McLean County residents, there are now two other major electronics recycling drop-offs in the community accepting a wide range of household electronics and small appliances in addition to multiple commercial locations that also accept certain electronics for recycling.

6. City of Bloomington Single Stream Recycling

Within the last five years the City of Bloomington has implemented single stream recycling. This is a change from the previous practice of dual stream recycling. The City also is currently converting to carted curbside automated collection. The previous participation rate was 40% while the current sign up for carts is at 58%. It is expected to be 60% by the time that sign up is complete.

7. Successful Reuse Programs

Multiple popular reuse options are available for local residents include the popular Habitat for Humanity ReStore, the Old House Society Architectural Warehouse, Recycling Furniture For Families, and Home Sweet Home Ministries Mission Mart.

8. Commercial Recycling

As all local trash haulers now also provide recycling services, many local businesses now participate in recycling programs, some with significant participation.



C. Recommendations Not Implemented

1. **Develop an incentive program for commercial recycling in small businesses.**

Illinois Wesleyan University Students working with the Ecology Action Center developed a voluntary certification program for local businesses to receive designation as a sustainable business. While much was learned about small business issues in regards to sustainability, the program ultimately was not implemented. There are multiple other “green business” certification programs in central Illinois; auditing potential businesses requires significant time, which exceeds the abilities of the EAC at current staffing levels.

The EAC has continued to pursue the goal of increasing small business recycling, laying the foundation through surveys of local businesses, research, and building partnerships. Key problems and barriers have been identified and the EAC is now looking for communities that have already dealt with similar issues in order to identify a range of possible solutions.

At the same time, numerous local commercial entities have made significant strides in reducing waste and increasing recycling:

- The partnership between Illinois State University and Midwest Fiber to provide food scrap composting service to area businesses has been well received with fourteen participating locations.
- Advocate BroMenn Hospital has increased recycling programs resulting in 2,531,315 pounds of materials recycled in the past five years, with a 29.3% recycling rate.
- State Farm Corporate Offices have annually increased internal recycling efforts resulting in nearly 13,500 tons of material recycled since 2007.
- McLean County Administration offices recycle all common recyclable materials and will be transitioning to a single stream program soon to increase participation.

2. **Expand opportunities to recycle in institutions such as hospitals and medical facilities.**

The Ecology Action Center made multiple attempts in 2011 to engage local hospital and health care facilities in a dialogue about waste issues, offering free waste auditing services to help quantify waste materials being landfilled. In order to glean some understanding of waste issues, the EAC instead conducted a small scale short survey of health care facilities. The response rate was low, but the data collected indicated that for small facilities such as doctors’ offices, similar barriers exist as to other small businesses — such as lack of space for storage and sorting of recyclables, lack of staff commitment, and insufficient funding to hire recycling services.



III. Recycling Program Status

- A. Has the program been implemented throughout the County planning area?
YES.
- B. Has a recycling coordinator been designated to administer the program? If yes, when?
YES, the Ecology Action Center has been retained by the County, City of Bloomington, and the Town of Normal to administer the Solid Waste Management Program since 1998.
- C. Does the program provide for separate collection and composting of leaves?
YES.
- D. Does the recycling program provide for public education and notification to foster understanding of and encourage compliance with the program?
YES.
- E. Does the recycling program include provisions for compliance, including incentives and penalties?
No.
- F. Does the program include provisions for recycling collected materials, identifying markets for at least three materials and promoting the use of products made from recovered or recycled materials among businesses, newspapers and local governments.
YES. Several municipal, for-profit, and not-for-profit recycling programs exist in McLean County, which provide for the collection, processing, and marketing of at least three materials. The Ecology Action Center promotes the use of products made from recycled materials among residents, businesses, schools, and other organizations.
- G. Provide any other pertinent details on the recycling program.
Recycling is available to all residents of McLean County through curbside and drop-off programs offered by municipalities. Outside of the larger Bloomington-Normal, many smaller municipalities now have recycling programs but unincorporated areas do not. However, residents without services in their community are able to utilize the recycling drop-offs in the Town of Normal. Commercial recycling is also available through several commercial recycling businesses.



IV. Current Needs Assessment

Time period for this information: 2011

- A. Municipal waste generated per year: 208,026 tons**
- B. Municipal waste generation rate: 6.56 pounds per capita per day (includes residents, businesses, and other organizations)**
- C. Municipal waste recycled per year: 71,099 tons**
- D. Municipal waste incinerated per year: 0**
- E. Municipal waste landfilled per year: 136,927 tons**



V. New Recommendations and Implementation Schedule

The McLean County ISWMP, adopted in 1991, had a goal of achieving the recycling rate of 25%, as required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. McLean County's recycling goal of 40% as set in the 2007 ISWMP Update has not yet been achieved. While incremental progress towards this goal has been made nearly every year during this five year period, with a high of 37.5%, in 2011 the rate suffered a significant setback due to more accurate reporting by one of the area's major recyclers bringing the most recent rate to 34.2%. While this rate is considered to be fairly accurate, even given annual improvements in the recycling rate, the community is still several years away from achieving the 40% recycling rate goal and as such will maintain the goal at this level for the period of this ISWMP Update.

This recycling rate will demand a more focused effort on determining the growth areas for recycling in residential, institutional and commercial areas. Industrial recycling is not captured in the municipal recycling rate and therefore cannot be specifically evaluated using this measure.

An additional factor drawing special attention to the need for continued growth in recycling programs is the impending closure of the only remaining landfill in McLean County. According to the January 2012 topographical survey, approximately four years of capacity remain with closure anticipated around September 2016. Increased recycling may help further delay this closure, thereby deferring the anticipated increased costs of trash disposal for our local municipalities, businesses, and residents.

The McLean County Recycling and Waste Reduction programs to increase recycling will be primarily coordinated by the Ecology Action Center in partnership with other local agencies. Programs to increase recycling rate include:

1. **Promotion of the new automated single-stream curbside recycling programs adopted by the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal.** In 2012 and 2013 the municipalities together with the EAC will work to promote their improved programs and increase participation through outreach at community events, through schools, and direct mailings/utility inserts.
2. **Investigate strategies to better serve residents of multi-family housing units with recycling services as they are not served by existing curbside programs.*** In 2014 and 2015 the EAC will research what works in other communities and will work with property management companies to design a proposal to better reach these residents with recycling programs.
3. **Research methods to provide food scrap composting services to community residents.*** Food composting was identified in the ISU community recycling assessment



Recommendations and Implementations (continued)

as a desired service; in 2015 the Ecology Action Center will research how these programs work in other communities and investigate cost effective means for implementing such a program locally, bringing recommendations to partner agencies in 2016.

4. **Continue to investigate means to increase small business recycling.** In 2012 and 2013 the EAC will continue current efforts working with the Uptown Normal Partners, the ISU Environmental Health Department, and the ISU Center for Developing Entrepreneurs to find cost effective strategies for increasing small business recycling.
5. **Promote Zero Waste community events.** In 2013 the EAC will develop educational materials to promote recycling and zero waste at area special events. In 2013 and 2014, EAC will outreach to event coordinators working on planning their special events, using these materials and offers of loans of special event recycling containers.
6. **Work with area schools to increase recycling.*** As many of the area schools still do not have recycling programs in place, on an annual basis the EAC will continue to promote recycling options and composting to area schools including promotion of recycling grants offered through the McLean County Solid Waste Fund.
7. **Target recycling awareness campaigns to populations recognized as currently not being reached satisfactorily — senior citizens, lower income households, and non-homeowners.*** EAC will develop alternative outreach programs to specifically meet these underserved audiences in 2014 and 2015.
8. **Continue efforts to provide Household Hazardous Waste collection for area residents both through one-day collection events and collaborating with a future central Illinois permanent collection facility.*** The government partners and the EAC will work to identify consistent and reliable income sources for HHW collection to include state funding, grants, sponsorships, and other sources. As the future Peoria HHW facility comes to fruition, efforts will be made to provide for local needs via the new facility.

* Recommendation originates from 2011 Community Recycling Assessment performed by Illinois State University Stevenson Center.