

Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Potential Uses for District Carryover Balance

1. Foodwaste Composting

Organics represent a large portion of the waste stream. This program would explore the costs and issues associated with developing a program for the composting of food waste in Hamilton County. Currently, there is no existing infrastructure in the region to compost foodwaste on a large scale. The District could facilitate the development of a food waste composting operation by contracting with a consultant to: identify potential locations that meet the Ohio EPA siting requirements within southwest Ohio/northern Kentucky, identify and resolve regulatory requirements, identify sources of grant funding, and conduct a market study.

Cost – unknown, Staff would issue a request for proposals to determine cost

2. Television Recycling Event

This option would allow the District to conduct a television recycling event in the fall of 2008 and spring of 2009. With the switch to digital broadcast in February, 2009 and the increasing popularity of televisions with new technology, many residents want an outlet to recycle their old televisions.

The District conducted a pilot television event in 2007. 348 households dropped off 463 televisions for a total cost of \$4,630.00.

Approximate cost = \$20,000 - \$40,000

3. Enhanced Public Awareness Campaign

This option would allow the District to develop an awareness campaign capable of ensuring that Hamilton County residents understand the tangible benefits of recycling and how to take advantage of recycling opportunities in their community.

Approximate cost = an additional \$20,000/year

4. Expand RecycleBank pilot to an additional community

The District applied for a grant to the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources to conduct a pilot project in the City of Montgomery, in partnership with Rumpke and RecycleBank. The District could use funds to conduct another RecycleBank pilot.

Approximate cost = \$230,000 for a one year pilot (3,000 households)

5. Compact Fluorescent Lightbulb (CFL) Collection Program

CFLs are widely used as a means to reduce energy usage and cost. However, CFLs contain a trace amount of mercury. Currently, the District is encouraging residents to drop-off CFLs at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) drop-off. Given the widespread usage of CFLs, the District is researching more convenient drop-off options for residents that could also lower the cost of the HHW program.

Approximate cost - unknown

6. Funding School Recycling Programs

This option would allow the District to fund school recycling programs at schools with a designated recycling coordinator and a developed educational campaign. The District has found that many school districts will not fund recycling programs, instead, the individual schools must fund the program. The average annual cost for a school recycling program is \$500.00.

Similar to the District's multi-family recycling program, the District would fund the first year of recycling as long as the school agreed via contract to fund at least two additional years. Ideally, during the first year of the program, the school will identify waste hauling savings that will offset the cost of recycling.

Approximate annual cost = \$5,000 - \$10,000