

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 increasing 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 grant funding, and conduct a market study.

Cost

Unknown, Staff would issue a request for proposals to determine cost

Potential Diversion

Food waste represents 14% of material entering Ohio landfills. It is estimated that approximately 126,000 tons of foodwaste are landfilled from Hamilton County generators. If 10% of this material were composted, 12,600 tons of material could be diverted from landfills.

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 through which 348 households dropped off 463 televisions for a total cost of \$4,630.00.

Cost

\$20,000 - \$40,000

Potential Diversion

35 tons (based on 2,000 televisions)

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.

Cost

Additional \$20,000/year

Potential Diversion

500 tons

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.

Cost

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

Potential Diversion

25% increase in the community's recycling tonnages.

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.

Cost

\$8,000 (including advertising)

Potential Diversion

n/a – the goal of this program is to offer a solution to a problem waste stream.

6. Funding School Recycling Programs

This option would allow the District to fund 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.

Cost

\$5,000 - \$10,000

Potential Diversion

93 tons

7. Additional Funding for Multi-Family Recycling Program

This option would allow the District to expand its multi-family recycling program. Through this program, the District provides technical assistance to set up recycling programs in apartments and condominiums. Through a contract, the District pays for the first year of recycling as long as the manager agrees to pay for two additional years.

Cost

Additional \$26,000

Potential Diversion

223 tons