

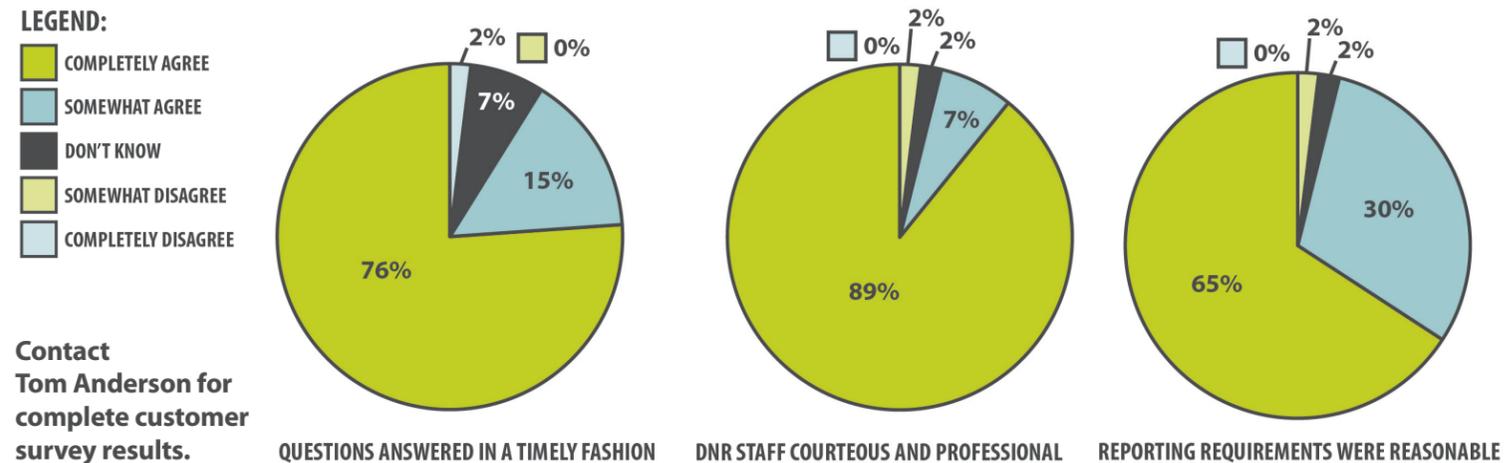
# SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING INITIATIVES

## SWAP CUSTOMER SURVEY

In November, the FABA Section implemented a customer service survey of current and former Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP) financial assistance recipients, including local governments, schools and universities, private sector businesses and not for profit organizations. The purpose was to learn survey respondent opinions on the delivery of the program, what is working and what is needed to better address the needs of program participants.

The eight question survey was sent to more than 100 past and current program participants. Survey responses showed that over 80% of respondents agreed the application was easy to find on the DNR website and that the application could be completed with little or no difficulties. 100% of those responding to the survey felt SWAP was valuable to their organization.

Other survey responses showed:



## SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM STAKEHOLDERS ASSEMBLE

In October, a large group of stakeholders met with FABA staff to discuss trends in program funding, expenditures, ongoing initiatives, landfill diversion opportunities related to specific waste streams, economic obstacles related to rural recycling and other resource management issues facing Iowa stakeholders.

The meeting was attended by more than 50 persons representing business and industry, local governments, educational institutions, and not for profit organizations. The FABA Section is currently reviewing comments, recommendations and identified issues while planning next steps to improve resource management across the state.

The Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP) provides financial assistance, partnering with public agencies and private companies and organizations to reduce the generation of solid waste, increasing reuse and recycling of natural resources and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

To learn more about FABA's solid waste and recycling initiatives, go to [www.iowadnr.gov/FABA](http://www.iowadnr.gov/FABA)

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## IOWA STATE PARK RECYCLING RESEARCH STUDY

In an effort to help lead the state in protecting and conserving natural resources, the FABA section contracted with Underwood Consulting to research and prepare a report on the economic and operational viability of implementing recycling in eight State Park campground areas.

### STATE PARK CAMPGROUNDS

- Clear Lake
- George Wyth
- Backbone
- Rock Creek
- Ledges
- Lake Anita
- Lake Manawa
- Gull Point

The study focused on the campground area of each participating park and involved sorting waste from campground area dumpsters into seven recyclable material categories, a compostable category and a trash category for materials that could not be recycled or composted.

The report shows that each campground visitor generates approximately 0.55 pounds of trash and 0.27 pounds of recyclables each day of their camping visit. Based on camping guest days from January through September 2012 at the eight state parks participating in the study, over 26 tons of recyclables typically collected in residential recycling programs could be diverted from area landfills if recycling programs were implemented.



The final report also indicates that implementing recycling in State Park campground areas is both practical and economically feasible, especially where strong public/private partnerships have been established.

## NEW IOWA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIRECTORY

The DNR is proud to announce the creation of the Iowa Resource Management Directory (IRMD), a database that contains information about locations or companies that accept, purchase, and/or transport recyclables.

Examples may include can and bottle redemption centers, material recovery facilities, reuse/thrift stores, etc. The IRMD was created to:

1. Be user-friendly and intuitive for users to input data.
2. Be available for multiple users to access simultaneously.
3. Be populated by recycling and reuse locations and service facility providers whose entries shall be tracked and published via a web-based interface that any user may access without a password.
4. Be searchable by allowing both the public and recycling, reuse, service facility providers to locate both local and state-wide recycling and waste diversion options for their recyclables, as well as, alert them to local collection and recycling events.

The public and firms with recyclable items to divert or sell can search the IRMD by location or by the type of materials purchased. For example, if you have a material that you would like to recycle, you can search for locations near you by entering your zip code. Finally, if you know that you've got cardboard, glass or another recyclable material to divert or sell, you can search the database by type of materials.

The DNR encourages all companies or organizations that accept recyclable materials generated inside Iowa to be included in our directory. Facilities with expansion plans into Iowa will not be added until they are operational. A website is being developed for hosting the directory and an update including web address will be provided in the near future.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Iowa Resource Management Directory, go to [www.iowadnr.gov/FABA](http://www.iowadnr.gov/FABA)

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