

# IOWA WASTE EXCHANGE

The Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE) is the product of a partnership of the Iowa DNR and the Economic Development Authority, with assistance from the Iowa Waste Reduction Center.

Many industries, businesses, and institutions dispose of items and materials that others can use. IWE Resource Specialists help anyone looking to obtain specific items or materials, and match them up with anyone who has items or materials they are looking to give.

Businesses, schools, hospitals, communities and individuals are encouraged to take advantage of the IWE's free, non-regulatory, and confidential services.

IWE Resource Specialists can provide a wide range of assistance:

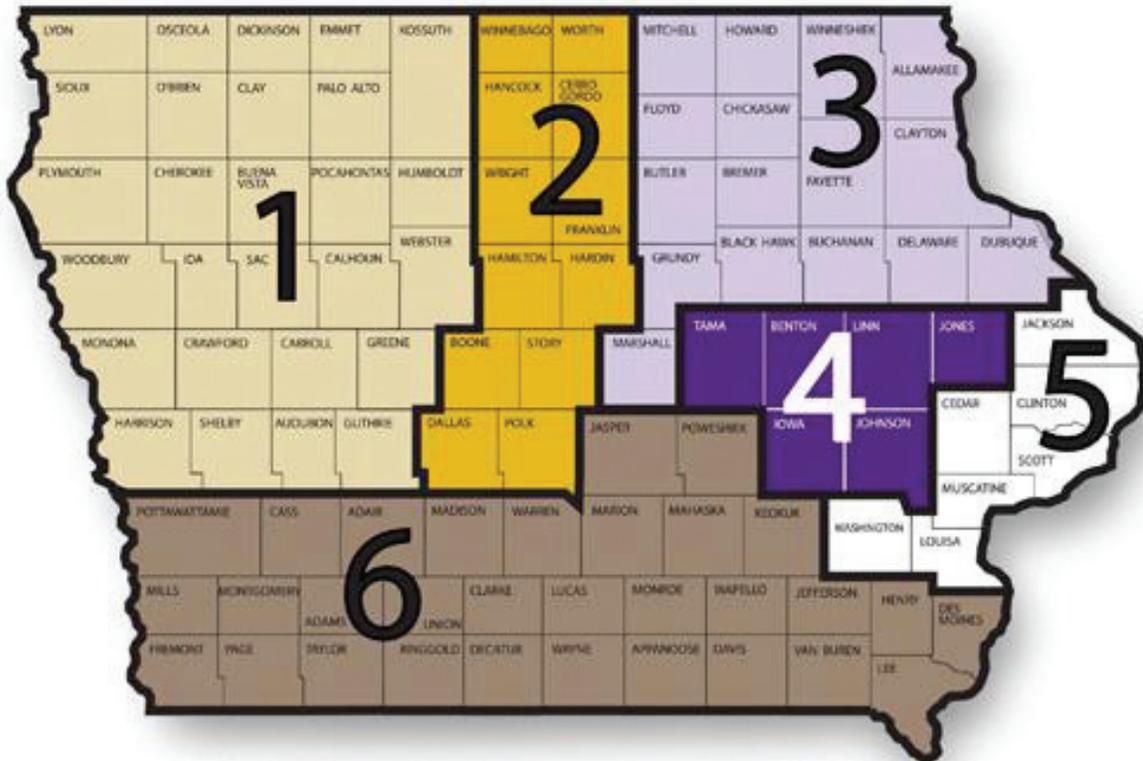
- Identifying viable markets for waste materials. A basic IWE principle – never rule out a waste stream.
- Helping locate and access markets for recyclable commodities.
- Finding environmentally stable solutions for unmarketable waste streams, such as outdated chemicals.
- Drafting and/or reviewing standard operating procedures for handling waste streams.

- Writing waste management grant applications for clients, and reviewing and commenting on client-drafted applications.
- Getting involved in numerous special programs and projects, including participating on recycling committees, in workshops, and at recycling events.

IOWA WASTE EXCHANGE STATISTICS: 2014	
Number of companies assisted (in house)	1,710
Number of companies assisted (on-site)	1,591
Number of material matches	436
Tons of materials matched	115,112
Total cost savings for Iowa companies	~\$2.3 million

IOWA WASTE EXCHANGE STATISTICS: 1990 - 2014	
Number of material matches	13,619
Tons of materials matched	3.5 million
Total cost savings for Iowa companies	~\$89.5 million

## IOWA WASTE EXCHANGE PRIMARY SERVICE AREAS



## 2014 IWE SUCCESSES

### TWO MEN AND A DUMPSTER DIVER

Women transitioning from domestic abuse situations and others received dressers thanks to Iowa State University (ISU), Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE) and the moving company, Two Men and a Truck. The ISU Director of Sustainability contacted the IWE Area 2 Resource Specialist about the potential donation of 45 dressers from one of the dorms, available to nonprofit organizations. Finding homes for the dressers was fairly straightforward, but logistics for loading, moving and unloading the dressers proved challenging and threatened to derail the project. When Two Men and a Truck was contacted to obtain quotes, they graciously offered to do a donation move. 15 of the dressers were hauled to Hampton for eventual distribution to clients of Bridge of Hope and La Luz Hispana. The remaining 30 dressers went to St. Joseph's Emergency Shelter, where several were to be distributed to families leaving the shelter. Others were moved to St. Anthony's School for use by instructors relocating from other countries to teach in the Spanish immersion program.

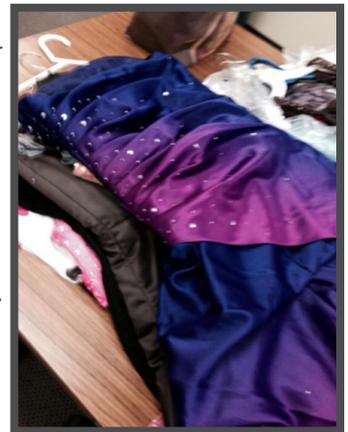


### LIDS & SPOOLS TEAMWORK

A radio broadcaster in Carroll found twenty lids from Rubbermaid totes, sans totes, while cleaning out a studio storeroom. The recycling center in Carroll referred him to the Area 1 Iowa Waste Exchange Resource Specialist, who called Plastic Recycling of Iowa Falls. They said that the lids could be used in their processes. The next day, the Crawford County Transfer Station called the Carroll recycling center about forty 10-inch black plastic spools from an area manufacturer. The referral again went to the IWE, and once more a match was made with Plastic Recycling of Iowa Falls. These transactions illustrate the teamwork and communication that happens among an area's solid waste operations and the Waste Exchange. Small transactions are as important as those involving hundreds or thousands of tons. The ultimate goals of the Program are to reduce solid waste costs, prolong the lives of landfills, and reduce energy usage through materials reuse or recycling. Every transaction moves Iowa towards meeting those goals.

### FINDING THE PERFECT PROM DRESS - FOR FREE

The Muscatine Solid Waste Agency's Recycle the Dress event provides prom-goers with free dresses and accessories from community member donations; now in its third year, over 200 dresses to choose from. "This is just another form of reuse and recycling," says the Muscatine Solid Waste Manager. "We decided to use the event as an educational opportunity to show the value of reuse". The Iowa Waste Exchange Area 5 Resource Specialist has had a role each year, spreading the word to prom dress seekers, collecting and delivering dresses from community members to the transfer station, and even helping to display dresses and talk about the benefits of reuse during a program on local public television. This project showcases the benefits of reuse in a very tangible way to both parents and their children, and also saves them a couple hundred dollars. In 2013, the Iowa Society of Solid Waste Operators recognized Recycle the Dress with the Innovative Recycling Project Award.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the IWE and its progress over the past year, go to [www.iowadnr.gov/FABA](http://www.iowadnr.gov/FABA)

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