

SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

The Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP) was established in the landmark Groundwater Protection Act of 1987 to offer financial assistance for the development and implementation of solid waste management projects to reduce the amount of solid waste generated and the amount of solid waste landfilled.

More than \$3.3 million was requested in funding to assist with implementing projects and programs that reduce solid waste generation and to divert solid waste from the landfill for higher and best use. Selected applicants were competitively awarded \$1.5 million to reduce and recycle solid waste resources. SWAP awards leveraged with over \$900,000 in local investment, allowed 29 new solid waste reduction, recycling and public awareness projects and programs to assist Iowans in conserving natural resources while stimulating local economies through product purchases and new services.

Projects that received funding assistance included a variety of new and expanded residential, commercial and agricultural related recycling projects, asphalt shingle recycling, food waste recovery expansion, and electronic waste reuse and recycling.

Thirty-seven (37) stakeholders, with active SWAP agreements, reported more than 74,000 tons of solid waste was diverted from Iowa landfills by these SWAP assisted local programs.

SWAP receives a portion of the solid waste tonnage fee assessed on solid waste landfilled in Iowa. Solid waste agencies collect the tonnage fee from landfill customers, retain varying amounts for local programs and remit the remainder to the state where it is deposited into the Groundwater Protection Fund. The tonnage fee is used to support several statewide programs.

LOAN TYPES AWARDED IN 2014

TYPE	FUNDING
Forgivable Only	\$333,091
Zero-Percent	\$505,630
Three-Percent	\$490,000
SWAP INVESTMENT TOTAL	\$1,527,721
LOCAL INVESTMENT TOTAL (cash)	\$914,702

APPLICANT TYPES AWARDED IN 2014

Local Government	13
Private for Profit	12
Private Non-Profit	4
TOTAL	29

2014 SWAP SUCCESS

DIFFERENT LANDFILL SERVICE AREAS, ONE COMMON GOAL

Central College, located in Pella Iowa, has been and continues to be committed to the environment through their mission of implementing sustainability initiatives across the campus including energy efficient vehicles, LEED certified buildings and recycling. Central College Dining Service has also implemented trayless meal service as a means to reduce post-meal food waste and water conservation.

Central College installed a food pulper for kitchen prep and post-meal food waste. Processed food waste is taken to a local composting facility where the pulped food waste will be composted and ultimately returned to the soil.



During the first year of operation, the food waste pulper resulted in:

- diverting more than 108,000 pounds of pre and post-meal food waste from the landfill for composting;
- saving more than \$10,000 in avoided landfill fees; and
- saving approximately \$8,000 in wastewater fees.

Project benefits included:

- additional sustainability education opportunities;
- revenue for area contractors
- eliminated greenhouse gases equivalent to 120 cars for a one month period.

Central College is investigating the next step in waste diversion. Coupling the pulper system with a dehydrator will allow the processed food waste material to be utilized directly on campus. This will result in additional cost avoidance through eliminating collection, transportation and tip fee costs associated with disposal away from campus.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about SWAP, go to www.iowadnr.gov/FABA

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