



Volume I
Regional Solid Waste Management
Plan
2022 to 2042 Planning Period

Submitted to Deep East Texas
Council of Governments
Board for Approval: 7/22/2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Texas Health and Safety Code 363, Subchapter D and Texas Administrative Code Chapter 330, Subchapter 0, the enclosed report serves as the Deep East Texas Council of Governments' (DETCOG) Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. This plan is an update to the previously approved plan from May 2007.

This plan update details the region's current and planned municipal solid waste (MSW) management procedures, objectives and goals, recommendations, and strategies for achieving goals through the planning period of years 2022 to 2042. The plan update follows TCEQ guidance using the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Volume I and Volume II forms and the plan is divided into four sections.

Geographic Scope,
Planning Periods,
Plan Content,
and Required Approvals.

To aid in gaining accurate and current data for use in this plan, an MSW survey was prepared and submitted to all public and private solid waste generators, collection organizations, and landfills within the DETCOG region. The survey aimed to gather MSW operations and practices, waste hauler and landfill information, and recycling and scrap operations data. DETCOG Staff also conducted interviews of County Judges, City Managers, Public Works Directors, Landfill Operators and Solid Waste Collection Operators. Additional plan data and information were obtained through various sources, which included TCEQ's Municipal Solid Waste in Texas: A Year in Review 2019, Data Summary and Analysis, and recent TCEQ annual solid waste reports.

Following the receipt of MSW surveys and data collection a draft plan was prepared by DETCOG Staff and distributed to the DETCOG Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee (RSWAC) for their review. The RSWAC met on July 19, 2021, to discuss the region's results, review plan drafts and revisions, and approve plan for distribution. A public meeting was conducted on July 21, 2021 to present the plan to the general public and solicit any comments for inclusion in the report. The plan was formally adopted by the DETCOG Board of Directors on July 22, 2021.

Through plan development and review, the RSWAC and the DETCOG board developed a series of regional goals and objectives to present within the plan. Regional goals and objectives will be periodically evaluated for effectiveness and suitability over the planning periods. The following statements are the regions objectives for the full planning period between years 2022 and 2042.

Achieve a 5% reduction of solid waste entering landfills by 2032 and a 10% reduction by 2042.

Develop a regional plan to properly dispose of Electronic Equipment.

Encourage proper disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW).

Decrease improperly disposed tires within the region.

Volume I Section I outlines the geographic scope of the region, Section II details the regions goals, waste minimization and recycling efforts, and the commitment to the management of MSW facilities, and Section III demonstrates the plan's approval. Volume II Sections I and II of the plans outline the geographic scope of the region and establish the short, intermediate, and long-range planning period for the full plan between 2022 to 2042. Section III outlines various subsections detailing the status and adequacy of waste management activities as well as recommendations, incentives, and barriers to achieving waste minimization, and reuse, recycling, and resource recovery. Section IV demonstrates the plan's approval by the general public, RSWAC, and the DETCOG Board.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Regional Solid Waste Management Plan was funded through grant money provided by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), from distribution through the Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG).

Deep East Texas Council of Governments would like to acknowledge and thank all participating parties involved in the planning and development of this regional solid waste management plan. The following is a list of key organizations and participants involved in the development of this plan.

Deep East Texas Council of Governments

Lonnie Hunt, Executive Director
Bob Bashaw, Director of Regional Service
Carolyn Stephenson, Solid Waste Coordinator

Regional Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Mark Nettuno, Chairman, San Jacinto County Commissioner
Tommy Overstreet, Vice-Chairman, Polk County Commissioner
John Angerstein, Crockett City Administrator
Tom Bellmyer, Shelby County Commissioner
Chuck Brooks, Angelina Count Landfill Administrator
John Camp, San Augustine City Manager
Frank Harris, Huntington Mayor
Sonny Hubbard, Pineywoods Sanitation
Paula Jones, Woodville Mayor
Jimmy McDaniel, Shelby County Commissioner
Jessica Montes, Waste Management
Doug Page, Trinity County Judge
Katie Rudisill, Keep Nacogdoches Beautiful
Cary Walker, Nacogdoches Public Works Manager
Blake Watts, Santek Environmental Services
Kenneth Weeks, Newton County Judge

Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Volume I

Regional Organization Information

Table 1. Organization Information

Name of Council of Government	Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG)
Mailing Address	1405 Kurth Drive Lufkin, Tx 75904
Website	www.DETCOG.gov
Phone Number	936-634-2247
Email Address	info@detcog.gov

Section I. Geographic Scope

Table I.I. Geographic Scope

Names of Member Counties in the Entire Planning Region	Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler.
---	---

Section II. Plan Content

II.A. Regional Goals and Objectives

Table II.A. Regional Goals and Objectives

Goal #1 Achieve a 5% reduction of solid waste entering landfills by 2032 and 10% by 2042	<p>Objective 1.A. Increase diversion rate at landfills and look for local partners and ways to reuse or process waste locally.</p> <p>Objective 1.B. Incentivize and coordinate with contractors and new development within the region to push for Construction and Demolition waste reduction, increased material reuse, or use of salvaged material.</p> <p>Objective 1.C. Encourage composting, chipping, and/or grinding of yard waste for reuse as mulch and fertilizer.</p>
---	--

<p>Goal #2 Encourage proper Electronic Disposal and Recycling in the region</p>	<p>Objective 2.A. Partner municipalities with local commercial electronic vendors to develop joint regional recycling disposal and recycling plan.</p> <p>Objective 2.B. Educate citizens on the hazards of disposing of electronics in their local dumpsters or collection stations.</p> <p>Objective 2.C. Provide permanent containers designated for Electronic Equipment collection within cities or increase number of community collection days in the region that accept Electronic Equipment.</p>
<p>Goal #3 Decrease improperly disposed Tires within region</p>	<p>Objective 3.A. Develop model scrap tire ordinances for Counties or Cities to aid in incentivizing proper scrap tire disposal.</p> <p>Objective 3.B. Gather and distribute information on scrap tire processing facilities in or near the DETCOG Region.</p> <p>Objective 3.C. Educate citizens on the tire collection facilities within or near the DETCOG Region.</p>
<p>Goal #4 Increase Public Education and Local Enforcement in the region on Illegal Dumping</p>	<p>Objective 4.A. Provide model ordinances on Illegal Dumping and Enforcement to educate and provide training for the Counties and Cities in the Region.</p> <p>Objective 4.B. Provide environmental enforcement training to educate and provide training to the entire region (enforcement, prosecution, judicial and public).</p> <p>Objectives 4.C. Gather and make available educational materials, and provide training, on the impact illegal dumping has in our region.</p>
<p>Goal #5 Increase the appropriate disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) in the Region</p>	<p>Objective 5.A. Encourage public/private partnerships to share cost burden and provide Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) services.</p> <p>Objective 5.B. Educate the municipalities on ways to gather and dispose of HHW and the unwanted results of improperly disposed HHW.</p> <p>Objective 5.C. Gather and distribute information for the public on the importance of the proper disposal of HHW.</p>
<p>Goal #6 Citizens Collection Stations and Small Transfer Stations</p>	<p>Objective 6.A. Determine if new or expanded facilities are needed within the region.</p> <p>Objective 6.B. Promote the development of transfer and citizen collection stations in areas of need.</p>

	<p>Objective 6.C. Encourage open and free markets within the region for solid waste collection, disposal and recycling.</p>
<p>Goal #7: Encourage and support the development of Local Solid Waste Management Plans in the Region</p>	<p>Objective 7.A. Coordinate with Counties and Cities developing Local Solid Waste Management Plans to integrate them into the Regional Plan.</p> <p>Objective 7.B. Promote development of local programs to enforce MSW regulations and permit requirements.</p> <p>Objective 7.C. Provide information to develop Local Solid Waste Plans in accordance with Texas Health & Safety Codes.</p>
<p>Goal #8: Encourage Tech Studies in the Region</p>	<p>Objective 8.A. Encourage Multi-Discipline approaches to Solid Waste Technical Studies in the Region.</p> <p>Objective 8.B. Provide information for projects to collect data, analyze issues and needs, elevate alternative solutions, collect public input, and recommended actions to assist in making solid waste management decisions on a local level.</p> <p>Objective 8.C. Encourage Solid Waste Tech studies to not only consider Technological aspects, but also the Environmental Impact and Sociological Sustainability.</p>

II.B. Efforts to Minimize, Reuse, and Recycle Waste

Table II.B. Waste Minimization, Reuse, and Recycling

Subject	Description
<p>Current Efforts to Minimize Municipal Solid Waste and to Reuse or Recycle Waste</p>	<p>Several Counties and Cities in the DETCOG region were operating Recycling programs prior to the collapse of the market for recyclable materials. However, all but our southernmost counties have now either eliminated or drastically curtailed their programs because of either the expense of transporting the collected materials to reprocessing centers or there being no market for the collected recyclable materials. Recycling had been the focus of past MSW reduction efforts.</p>

Subject	Description
	With that not being practical for many of our Counties and Cities, we are currently seeing minimal efforts to minimize municipal solid waste.
Recycling Rate Goal for the Region	Achieve a 5% reduction of solid waste entering landfills by 2032 and 10% by 2042. Those goals were established with the expectation of the re-establishment of a viable reprocessing and reuse market for recyclable materials within 10 years. Members of our Solid Waste Advisory Committee concurred with this expectation and goals.
Recommendations for Encouraging and Achieving a Greater Degree of Waste Minimization and Waste Reuse or Recycling	<p>A. Increase diversion rate at landfills and look for local partners and ways to reuse or process waste locally.</p> <p>B. Incentivize and coordinate with contractors and new development within the region to push for C&D waste reduction, increased material reuse, or use of salvaged material.</p> <p>C. Encourage composting, chipping, and/or grinding of yard waste for reuse as mulch and fertilizer. Provide a list of any recommendations for encouraging and achieving a greater degree of waste minimization and waste reuse or recycling in the geographic area covered by the plan.</p>
Existing or Proposed Community Programs for the Collection of Household Hazardous Waste	<p>Angelina County partners with a non-profit, Angelina Beautiful Clean, which holds one Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection day a year. There are no geographic restrictions on who can dispose of their HHW. Even using volunteers their disposal expenses range from \$23,000 to \$28,000.</p> <p>The City of Nacogdoches received a DETCOG Solid Waste grant to help them conduct a HHW Collection Day. However, a combination of the Covid-19 Pandemic and changes in City Staff caused them to not hold that event.</p> <p>The expenses related to the collection and disposal of the Hazardous Waste are too high, and the perceived benefits to the Counties and Cities insufficient, for them to expend their limited funds on HHW Collection and Disposal.</p>
Composting Programs for Yard Waste	<p>The recommended composting programs for yard waste and related organic wastes may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☒ (I) creation and use of community composting centers; ☒ (II) adoption of the "Don't Bag It" program for lawn clippings developed by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service; and ☒ (III) development and promotion of education programs on home composting, community composting, and the separation of yard waste for use as mulch.

Subject	Description
Public Education/Outreach	The DETCOG Solid Waste Program regularly participates in DETCOG Sponsored public events and “Fairs”. We distribute TCEQ-DETCOG branded educational materials at those events.

II.C. Commitment Regarding the Management of MSW Facilities

By checking the boxes below, the Council of Government makes a commitment to the following, regarding the management of MSW facilities:

- (i) encouraging cooperative efforts between local governments in the siting of landfills for the disposal of solid waste;
- (ii) assessing the need for new waste disposal capacity;
- (iii) considering the need to transport waste between municipalities, from a municipality to an area in the jurisdiction of a county, or between counties, particularly if a technically suitable site for a landfill does not exist in a particular area;
- (iv) allowing a local government to justify the need for a landfill in its jurisdiction to dispose of the solid waste generated in the jurisdiction of another local government that does not have a technically suitable site for a landfill in its jurisdiction;
- (v) completing and maintaining an inventory of MSW landfill units in accordance with Texas Health and Safety Code, §363.0635. One copy of the inventory shall be provided to the commission and to the chief planning official of each municipality and county in which a unit is located; and
- (vi) developing a guidance document to review MSW registration and permit applications to determine conformance with the goals and objectives outlined in *Volume II: Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Guidelines* as referenced in 30 TAC §330.643.

Section III. Required Approvals

Table III.I. Required Approvals

Solid Waste Advisory Committee	July 19, 2021
Public Meeting Dates	July 21, 2021
Executive Committee	September 23, 2021