

Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Volume I

Regional Organization Information

Name of Council of Government	Heart of Texas Council of Governments
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Section I. Geographic Scope

Names of Member Counties in the Entire Planning Region	McLennan, Hill, Bosque, Falls, Limestone, Freestone
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Section II. Plan Content

II.A. Regional Goals and Objectives

Goal #1 Promote Integrated Solid Waste Management Strategies	Objective 1.A. Continue to address underserved areas as warranted by needs and population growth of the HOTCOG region, e.g., expand citizens' collection stations, as needed Objective 1.B. Address recycling needs in response to changes in market dynamics of recycled
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	<p>commodities</p> <p>Objective 1.C. Address capacity issues, as warranted by current capacity of integrated waste management system (e.g., expand landfill(s))</p> <p>Objective 1.D. Continue to monitor the development of waste-to-energy and waste conversion technologies and implement, when feasible</p>
<p>Goal #2 Encourage Public Education and Involvement in Integrated Solid Waste Programs</p>	<p>Objective 2.A. Develop public education materials about solid waste management and recycling</p> <p>Objective 2.B. Increase public awareness of the importance of stopping illegal dumping</p> <p>Objective 2.C. Increase public awareness through clean-up events such as Waste Tire Amnesty Days</p> <p>Objective 2.D. Encourage community programs through school curricula, advertising campaigns, environmental programs, and volunteer organizations</p> <p>Objective 2.E. Encourage local efforts to stop illegal dumping</p> <p>Objective 2.F. Clarify local government responsibilities and encourage use of litter abatement officers with a vision of establishing a regional task force</p>
<p>Goal #3 Encourage and Promote Funding Availability to Ensure Regional and Local Implementation of this plan.</p>	<p>Objective 3.A. Utilize available grant funds for local plans, illegal dumping enforcement, and development of collection stations.</p> <p>Objective 3.B. Provide updates and distribution of the regional solid waste information system.</p> <p>Objective 3.C. Promote and encourage grant and loan funds from federal, state, and private sector institutions to comply with the plan.</p> <p>Objective 3.D. Continue to monitor the availability of grants and pursue grant funding consistent with HOTCOG's goals.</p>
<p>Goal #4 Encourage the Development of HHW and Diversion</p>	<p>Objective 4.A. Encourage public and private partnership efforts.</p>

<p>Programs</p>	<p>Objective 4.B Encourage the advertising and hosting of Community Collection Events in each county to promote diversion of materials from local landfills.</p> <p>Objective 4.C. Support reduction of HHW</p> <p>Objective 4.D. Assess the need, feasibility, and public interest of a regional. HHW collection facility(s) or mobile facility(s).</p> <p>Objective 4.E. Recommend the development and use of alternative non-HHW products.</p>
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II.B. Efforts to Minimize, Reuse, and Recycle Waste

Subject	Description
<p>Current Efforts to Minimize Municipal Solid Waste and to Reuse or Recycle Waste</p>	<p>The region has several recycling options. City of Waco provides voluntary curbside recycling. Cobbs provides drop off recycling for all Waco residents free and charge for non-residents. Residents of the rural areas have a few drop off stations including a collection station in Marlin and Meridian. Based on review of the annual reports submitted to the TCEQ from the four MSW landfills in the HOTCOG region, biosolids comprise less than one percent of the waste received at these landfills. The Waco Metropolitan Area Regional Sewerage System (WMARSS) wastewater treatment plant serves approximately 175,000 people from the cities of Waco, Bellmead, Hewitt, Lacy-Lakeview, Lorena, Robinson, and Woodway.</p>
<p>Recycling Rate Goal for the Region</p>	<p>Participation in the City of Waco Curbside Recycling program is voluntary, not mandated. From a total of 34,559 residential accounts, the total number of participating households is 9,568 (27.7%). On an annual basis, the curbside recycling program collects approximately 3,000 tons of recyclable materials. It has been estimated that the average City of Waco household recycles approximately 520 pounds per year. By weight, the greater Waco MSA residential recycling rate has been estimated to be 16.9%. The Regional Solid Waste Management volume 2 that was developed in 2013 conveys that the state rate is 5 percent. HOTCOG’s goal is to maintain the current statewide recycling rate of 5 percent as the population HOTCOG region continues to grow. A total of 79 businesses, 7 residential apartments, 20 public elementary schools, 21 secondary public schools and 4 private schools participate in recycling.</p>

Subject	Description
<p>Recommendations for Encouraging and Achieving a Greater Degree of Waste Minimization and Waste Reuse or Recycling</p>	<p>Expand residential collection services to currently underserved areas.</p> <p>Improve service to underserved areas through construction of new strategically located citizens' collection stations.</p> <p>Maximize capacity and efficiency of recycling operations.</p> <p>Maximize capacity and efficiency of landfills.</p> <p>Continue to address underserved areas as warranted by needs and population growth of the HOTCOG region, e.g., expand citizens' collection stations, as needed.</p> <p>Address recycling needs in response to changes in market dynamics of recycled commodities.</p> <p>Address capacity issues, as warranted by current capacity of integrated waste management system (e.g., expand landfill(s)).</p> <p>Continue to monitor the development of waste-to-energy and waste conversion technologies and implement, when feasible.</p> <p>Encourage the development of transfer stations, as needed to address efficiencies of transporting MSW to disposal/processing facilities.</p> <p>Continue to monitor the development of waste-to-energy and waste conversion technologies and implement when feasible.</p>
<p>Existing or Proposed Community Programs for the Collection of Household Hazardous Waste</p>	<p>Household hazardous waste (HHW) is managed within the region through periodic collection events. In the past several years, HOTCOG has supported one-day collection events that have included McLennan County cities of Waco, Hewitt, Lorena, Lacy Lakeview, Robinson and Woodway.</p>
<p>Composting Programs for Yard Waste</p>	<p>Curbside Brush Collection:</p> <p>Residential Solid Waste Services in Waco include the free pickup of one 5'x 4'x 4' (maximum) brush waste pile which was generated by residents, defined as those who occupy a home and pay for solid waste services via their water bill.</p> <p>Yard waste collection is provided to residents in many of the cities in the region and collection and recycling centers in some locations accept yard waste. Based on the information available, there are no large-scale composting operations in the HOTCOG region at this time.</p>
<p>Public Education/Outreach</p>	<p>Develop public education materials about solid waste management and recycling.</p> <p>Increase public awareness of the importance of stopping illegal dumping.</p> <p>Increase public awareness through clean-up events such as Waste Tire Amnesty Days.</p> <p>Encourage community programs through school curricula, advertising campaigns, environmental programs, and volunteer organizations.</p>

Subject	Description
	Encourage local efforts to stop illegal dumping. Clarify local government responsibilities and encourage use of litter abatement officers with a vision of establishing a regional task force.

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.

Section III. Required Approvals

Solid Waste Advisory Committee	7/22/2021
Public Meeting Dates	7/22/2021
Executive Committee	7/22/2021