

Lorain County Solid Waste District

District Annual Report 2019

Lorain County Solid Waste Management District is proud
to be a Department of the Lorain County Commissioners.



Connect with the District

OUR MISSION

To Implement the Lorain County Solid Waste Management Plan by Educating & Encouraging Recycling Efforts, Waste Reduction, & Litter Prevention in Lorain County.

Contact Us! (440) 329-5440

Our office is open:
Monday — Friday
8:00 AM — 4:30 PM

loraincounty.us/solidwaste

Information available on:
Recycling materials accepted
Trash information
Household hazardous waste
Events and programs
Products from recycled content
School and group presentations
Local solid waste news
Reports and publications
Recycling tips
Composting
“Kids Corner” activities

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK



facebook.com/LCSolidWaste

“Like” us to stay connected and get important up-to-date information about local solid waste and recycling issues!

COMMISSIONERS



Lori Kokoski



Sharon Sweda



Matt Lundy

POLICY COMMITTEE

Matt Lundy
COMMISSIONER

Jack Bradley
MAYOR, CITY OF LORAIN

David Covell
HEALTH COMMISSIONER

Dr. David Hintz
CHAIR, PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE

David Urig
TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVE

Barbara Kantola
INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Heather Adelman
PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT STAFF

Beverly Gardner
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Brandi N. Schnell
COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Tiffany Barker
MARKETING COORDINATOR

Community Recycling

How much did your community recycle in 2019?

In Lorain County in 2019, 25% of residential & commercial waste was recycled but...47% of trash sent to landfills is still recyclable!

Contact your local service department or township fiscal officer for community-specific information (i.e. bulk item collection or solid waste hauler).



LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY	2016 TONS	2017 TONS	2018 TONS	2019 TONS
Amherst (City)	1,072	1,059	946	958
Amherst Township	416	409	397	389
Avon (City)	1,719	1,618	1,383	1,383
Avon Lake (City)	1,709	1,965	1,721	1,585
Brighton Township	67	61	58	59
Brownhelm Township	110	113	97	169
Camden Township	98	135	150	165
Carlisle Township	697	569	503	417
Columbia Township	532	495	455	423
Eaton Township	409	452	443	438
Elyria (City)	3,044	3,111	2,597	1,998
Elyria Township	255	244	211	217
Grafton (Village)	249	255	252	279
Grafton Township	179	218	210	215
Henrietta Township	192	229	178	166
Huntington Township	68	71	67	78
Kipton (Village)	18	18	14	17
LaGrande (Village)	252	249	253	259
LaGrande Township	215	234	189	185
Lorain (City)	640	2,369	2,699	2,229
N. Ridgeville (City)	632	2,608	2,406	2,293
New Russia Township	236	238	215	194
Oberlin (City)	743	770	959	975
Penfield Township	116	115	126	203
Pittsfield Township	96	117	113	110
Rochester (Village)	13	13	12	10
Rochester Township	45	44	41	37
S. Amherst (Village)	222	267	220	216
Sheffield (Village)	273	276	249	228
Sheffield Lake (City)	699	640	498	473
Sheffield Township	224	224	243	218
Vermillion (City)	1,043	1,051	809	791
Wellington (Village)	390	384	405	378
Wellington Township	132	215	230	230
TOTAL TONS	18,805	20,836	19,349	17,985

Special Materials

Lorain County Collections Center

540 South Abbe Rd.
Elyria, OH

Lorain City Garage (Tires ONLY)

114 E. 35th Street
Lorain, OH

Grafton Township Hall (Tires ONLY)

17109 Avon Belden Road
Grafton, OH

Please check our website at loraincounty.us/solidwaste before visiting as hours for the Collection Center and both tire sites are subject to change due to COVID-19.

RESIDENTS

Lorain County residents may drop-off listed materials for FREE.

- Household Hazardous Waste
- Electronic waste
- Fluorescent lamps & ballasts
- Scrap tires
- Microwaves
- Books (hardback/paperback)
- Residential document shredding
- Mixed residential recycling
 - aluminum & steel cans
 - glass bottles & jars*
 - plastic containers* #1-7
 - cardboard & paper

*(food & beverage containers)

BUSINESSES

Lorain County businesses may drop-off listed materials for FREE.

- Electronic waste
- Fluorescent lamps & ballasts
- Books (hardback/paperback)
- Cardboard & paper



MATERIALS COLLECTED IN 2019

Scrap Tires.....	256 Tons
E-Waste.....	250 Tons
HHW	187 Tons
Bulbs & Ballasts	138 Tons
Latex Paint	100 Tons
Books, Paper, Cardboard.....	92 Tons
Lead Acid Batteries	10 Tons
Propane Tanks	4 Tons
Used Motor Oil & Antifreeze	2 Tons
Scrap Metal.....	2 Tons

PROPER TIRE MAINTENANCE

1. Use correct tire inflation pressure.
2. Inspect tires regularly for uneven wear patterns.
3. Never exceed your vehicle's load limits.
4. Be a smart driver!

More than 512,000 pounds of scrap car and truck tires were collected in the District in 2019 to keep Lorain County a beautiful, safe, and healthy place to live.

Composting

The District continued the compost education program in 2019 by providing funding to the OSU Agricultural Extension Office to conduct presentations for students and adults on composting and gardening-related topics. The Agricultural Educator participates in regular radio broadcasts, is available at the Lorain County Fair, and provides presentations upon request to discuss composting.

HOME COMPOSTING

Learn the benefits of composting first hand by creating your own compost bin or pile. Compost makes soil loose and dark, helps retain water, fertilizes, and makes plants and gardens grow better. Yard waste and fruit and vegetable scraps are all appropriate materials for home composting. A composting specialist at the Lorain County Office of the OSU Agricultural Extension Service is employed by the District to promote methods of managing organic materials and to give you technical assistance in preparing backyard compost.

Call the OSU Agricultural Extension Office for more details at (440) 326-5851



Mulch your grass clippings as you mow. Leaving the clippings on the lawn provides a great source of nutrients for a healthy lawn.



Participate in the yard waste collection program if offered by your community!

IN 2019, LORAIN COUNTY COMPOSTED:

28,828 tons of yard waste

1,656 tons of food waste

10% of all residential & commercial waste

At **17** different composting sites across the county

Connecting with the Community Pride Day

Each year, Lorain County residents take part in this county-wide litter collection and beautification event promoted and sponsored by the District. As part of Keep America Beautiful's Great American Clean Up, we would like to thank the more than 2,000 residents from 24 communities who volunteered their time to make Lorain County a beautiful and safe place we are proud to call "home!"

To be part of Pride Day activities, contact Brandi Schnell at (440) 328-2249 or bschnell@loraincounty.us

BE GREEN SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship offered through the Lorain County Community College Foundation is funded by the Lorain County Commissioners through the Solid Waste District and awards a \$500 scholarship each year. Students must write an essay on a topic related to recycling, litter prevention, or sustainability. The first scholarship was awarded in 2015.



EVENT BOOTHS

Visiting the District's educational booths at local events and festivals are a great place to ask questions and pick up flyers on topics ranging from recycling to source reduction. We encourage you to stop by next time you see our booth at a community event!



Education and Awareness

The District is committed to promoting the reduction, reusing, and recycling of solid waste through educational programs and outreach efforts.

COLLECTION CENTER TOURS

Adults and students can request a tour at the Lorain County Collection Center to view facility operations and learn about proper hazardous waste disposal. 64 residents were included in 3 tours of the Collection Center in 2019.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

2,897 students participated in the District's 95 presentations given during 2019. Presentations focused on the "three R's" (reduce, reuse, and recycle), renewable and non-renewable resources, litter prevention, and District programs.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult groups & organizations are encouraged to request a presentation on solid waste topics. Several presentations during 2019 included both adults & children.

Contact Brandi Schnell to schedule a presentation or tour.
(440) 328-2249 or bschnell@loraincounty.us

LENDING LIBRARY

The District provides a free online lending library to help educators teach students about reducing, reusing, and recycling. Books, DVDs, VHS tapes, as well as activities and worksheets on a variety of recycling-oriented topics are available.

RECYCLING PLEDGE DRIVE

The District held a pledge drive throughout Lorain County schools for America Recycles Day with 6 schools and 1,204 students and their teachers who signed pledges to recycle more. In addition, 75 pledges were received at various District events where participants were entered into a drawing to win a rain barrel.

CAPTION CONTEST

The District also holds its annual photo caption contest. Students from around the District submit an original photo and caption about recycling. Four photos were chosen as winners, and the winning students receive a prize and poster of their photo to hang at their school.



PRIDE DAY T-SHIRT CONTEST

Students competed to design a t-shirt that volunteers wore during the Lorain County Pride Day events in 2018. There were 107 entries.



CALENDAR CONTEST

The District hosted its Annual Calendar Contest. Lorain County K-12 students designed drawings using the "Three R's" (reduce, reuse, recycle) or a litter prevention theme. 13 winners were selected from 1,465 entries and received a \$25 check, a certificate, & multiple calendars to pass out to friends & family.

Business and Industrial Recycling | Free Waste Assessments

A waste assessment is a formal review of operations designed to spotlight opportunities for waste reduction, reuse, or recycling.

The District continues to provide free waste assessments to local businesses and organizations. Strategic plans are provided to businesses and industries that participate in a District waste assessment. These plans outline specific goals and objectives and include a realistic schedule for businesses and industries to implement strategies and recommendations identified throughout the assessment process.

For more information about a free waste assessment, call the District at (440) 329-5440.

BUSINESS RECYCLING

Businesses may request temporary recycling collection containers from the District for special events.

- retail establishments
- non-profit organizations
- business offices

INDUSTRIAL RECYCLING

- Recycling of scrap material from a manufacturing process such as metals and plastics.
- Reuse of materials resulting from the manufacturing process (cardboard, pallets, & packaging materials).

**IN 2019, LORAIN COUNTY
BUSINESSES RECYCLED:**

81,287 tons of
industrial materials

1,413 tons of paper from
Paper Retriever bins

TOP 5 REASONS TO RECYCLE AT WORK

1. COST SAVINGS

Save money on trash disposal fees. Some recyclable materials actually generate revenue!

2. CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Build loyalty with customers by showing that your company is doing its part to minimize its impact on the planet.

3. EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION

Workplaces that take part in environmentally friendly programs like recycling report higher morale & lower employee turnover.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions, supplies raw materials, prevents water pollution, and saves energy!

5. JOB CREATION

Recycling boosts our economy by creating or sustaining jobs in collection, processing, manufacturing, and reselling. Recycling supports 10 times as many jobs per 10,000 tons of waste than traditional waste disposal.

Protecting the Environment

Environmental Crimes Unit

The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District and Sheriff's Office established the Environmental Crimes Unit (ECU) in 2009 to protect Lorain County residents and the environment. The ECU aims to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Lorain County through education and enforcement.

The ECU responds to complaints about litter, open dumping, and other environmental crimes reported by the general public, local businesses, cities, townships, and county governments, as well as other law enforcement agencies. The ECU also provides the public with information and resources on how to properly dispose of waste.

LITTERING

- Littering leads to more litter and decreases property values.
- Open dumping invites disease-carrying pests.
- Abandoned tires are a fire hazard.
- Illegal trash burning can contaminate the air and groundwater with dangerous toxins.

REPORT LITTERING, DUMPING OR OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES!

ONLINE

- 1) www.loraincountysheriff.com
- 2) Under "Divisions" select "Environmental Crimes Unit"

CALL

Deputy Daniel Strohsack:
(440) 329-3743
Deputy Michael Lopez:
(440) 329-3759

SAVING TAX DOLLARS AND NEIGHBORHOODS

The ECU aims to save residents tax money and improve neighborhoods. Areas affected by illegal dumping and litter can be expensive to clean up. The ECU saves residents' tax dollars that would otherwise be spent on costly cleanups.



In 2019, Lorain County's ECU received the Keep Ohio Beautiful Law Enforcement Award as well as the Civic/Non-profit Group of the Year Award! Congrats and thank you for all you do!

Financial Support & Market Development | Recycling Revolving Loan

Businesses, organizations, and non-profits that utilize recycled materials may receive financial assistance.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Using recycled materials, or closing the loop, is important to ensuring the success of recycling programs, increasing competition, and saving energy and natural resources.

HOW CAN I CLOSE THE LOOP?

Look for the logo on packaging or products. Used alone, the logo means a product is both recyclable and made of recycled material. If the logo is used next to a percentage, the percentage indicates how much of the total product is made from post-consumer recycled materials.



THIS PROGRAM HAS LOCAL EFFECTS!

- Promotes recycling business opportunities
- Provides additional markets for recycled materials
- Retains and creates recycling-related jobs
- Increases the manufacturing capacity for recyclable materials in Lorain County

COMMON PRODUCTS MADE WITH RECYCLED MATERIALS

- **PAPER PRODUCTS:** paper, paper towels, tissues, cardboard
- **CLOTHING** made from recycled cotton or plastic bottles
- **CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:** recycled glass & steel, cork panels, decking materials
- **AUTOMOBILES:** re-refined oil, mud flaps, retreaded tires, used parts
- **GARDENING SUPPLIES:** hoses, fencing, mulch, and compost

COMMUNITY INCENTIVE GRANT

Communities can utilize funding to improve or maintain curbside recycling for...

- Increasing participation rates
- Education and awareness programs
- Social marketing campaigns
- Improving opportunities for multi-family housing complexes
- Equipment purchases
- Other appropriately targeted activities

In 2019, \$420,000 in grant funding was available to Lorain County cities, townships, and villages!

DISTRICT MARKET DEVELOPMENT GRANT

The District awarded 4 market development grants in 2019 totaling more than \$57,000 to Lorain County non-profit organizations and institutions to purchase products and equipment made from recycled materials!

For more information:

Tiffany Barker

440-328-2368

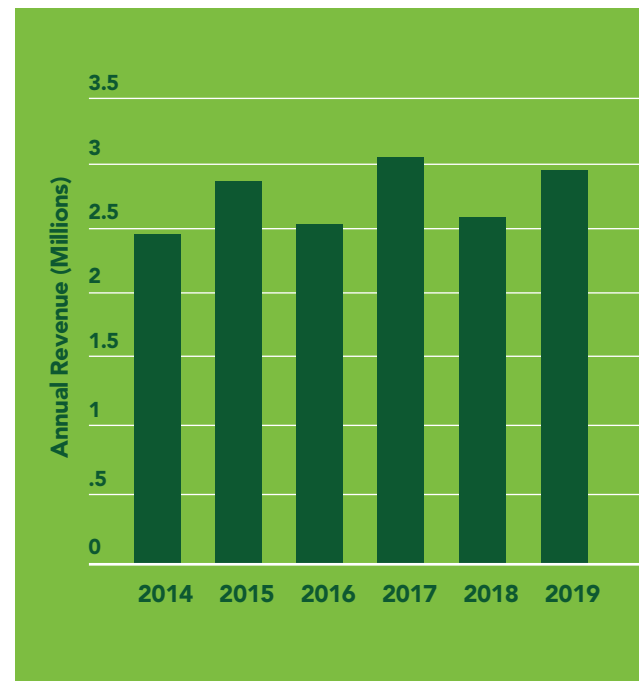
tbarker@loraincounty.us

Fiscal Transparency

Revenue

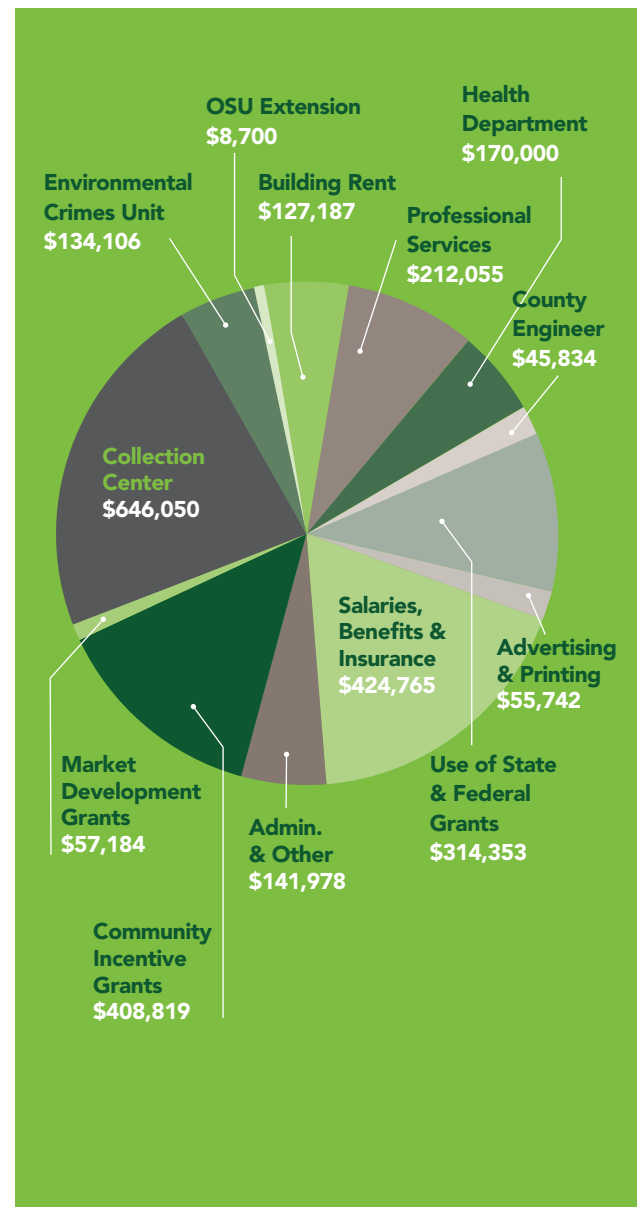
The District earns revenue through a \$2 disposal fee, which is a charge levied on each ton of waste delivered to the landfill in Lorain County. Unlike many districts in Ohio, Lorain County's disposal fee is the same for in-District and out-of-District waste.

The District also generates revenue from other sources including a contract with the Republic Services landfill and grants. In 2019, the District received approximately \$2.9 million.



Expenditures

Revenue generated from disposal fees must be used by solid waste districts for specific purposes defined by Ohio law. The District uses these funds mainly to operate programs, implement the Solid Waste Management Plan, and manage facilities. In 2019, the District spent approximately \$2.7 million on improving and operating the solid waste system in Lorain County.



Looking Ahead

COVID-19

Though this report mainly refers to the successes of the Lorain County Solid Waste District's programs in 2019, we would like to make a statement regarding where we are in 2020 and what the plan is going forward.

The Collection Center, both tire sites, and District office have been closed since March 2020 due to the virus for the safety of the public as well as employees. The tire sites and Collection Center have opened up at the beginning of July 2020. There are restrictions and precautions set in place to keep all participants safe. Participants who are sick or show symptoms are asked to stay home, masks are required, residents are asked to remain in their cars, and surfaces will be cleaned regularly.

It is our hope that everyone continues to remain safe and that our District will become fully operational again once State and County leaders have permitted to do so.

There are multiple options to keep up with District news:

- **Like and follow the Lorain County Solid Waste Management District on Facebook: @lcsolidwaste**
- **Call the County Commissioners office: 440-329-5111**
- **Visit our website at loraincounty.us/solidwaste**

Keep Recycling

Different communities in Lorain County have different waste and recycling haulers. Make sure to contact your community's hauler with any questions about what is acceptable in recycling, schedules, or billing questions!

The only materials accepted in recycling are:

1. Paper
2. Cardboard
3. Plastic bottles and jugs
4. Metal cans
5. Glass bottles

When in doubt, throw it out!

