



2014 Annual Report

Our Mission

To develop and implement a comprehensive solid waste plan which reflects the needs of the District, protects the environment, fulfills and exceeds regulatory and legislative objectives through education, source reduction, recycling, composting and final disposal alternatives; in a joint partnership with the community, government, and private sector



ALLEN COUNTY SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



Board of Directors

Linda K. Bloom, Chair	Allen County Commissioner
Don Gerardot, Vice Chair	Monroeville Town Board
Therese Brown, Secretary	Allen County Commissioner
Larry Brown	Allen County Council
Tom Henry	City of Fort Wayne Mayor
Russell Jehl	Fort Wayne City Council
Nelson Peters	Allen County Commissioner

**composition required by statute*

Staff

Tony Burrus, Director
Stacie Hubbert, Program Manager
Jodi Leamon, Business Technical Coordinator
Austin Carpenter, Household Hazardous Waste Coordinator
Laura Rhoades, Community Education Coordinator
Susan Keeler, Media Buyer/Staff Assistant
Carol Strauss, Fiscal Officer/Administrative Assistant
Bob Armstrong, Equipment Operator
G. William Fishering, Attorney

Why Waste Reduction is Important

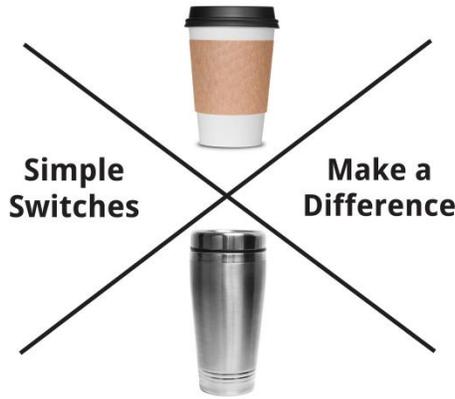
Nearly everything we do leaves behind some amount of waste. On the average, each American generates 4.5 pounds of trash a day. So, what happens to it all? Typically, waste can either be buried in a landfill, recycled, or composted.

Landfills are designed to bury trash, not to break it down. Some materials are banned from landfills by law, i.e., electronics, yard waste, certain household hazardous waste items and whole tires.

Educating our community's residents and businesses about the need and importance of waste reduction, combined with offering safe, convenient, and affordable recycling opportunities, is the primary focus of the Allen County Solid Waste Management District.

Much has been accomplished but there is still much we, as a community, need to tackle to achieve Indiana's recycling goal of 50 percent.

It's all about our community, our environment, and our choices.



**Simple
Switches**

**Make a
Difference**

Ditch the disposables!



260.449.7878 www.acwastewatcher.org

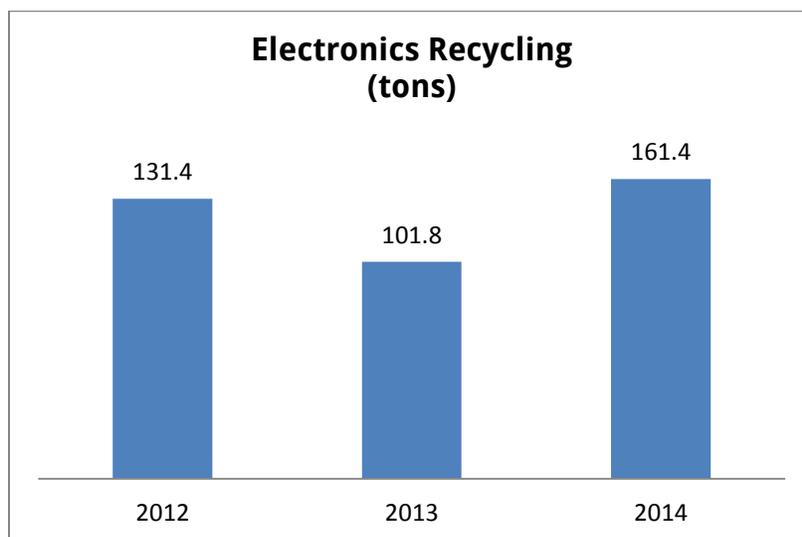


Electronics

Recognizing the incredible growth of electronics in our daily lives and their problematic disposal issues, the District partnered with OmniSource in 2002 and created a year-round electronics recycling program for Allen County residents. Indiana law (IC 13-20.5) banned electronics from landfill disposal in 2011.

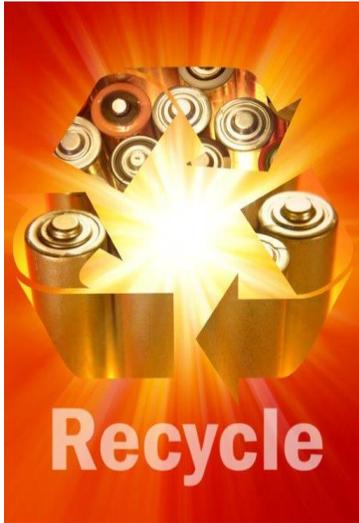
A record number of electronics, 161.4 tons, was collected by the 2014 recycling program. Electronics collected in Allen County for recycling by the District are de-manufactured by a certified contractor located in Indiana.

Because old electronic devices contain toxic substances such as lead, mercury, cadmium and chromium, proper processing is essential to ensure that these materials are not released into the environment.



Household Hazardous Waste

Battery Recycling, Mercury Reduction, Tox-Away Day

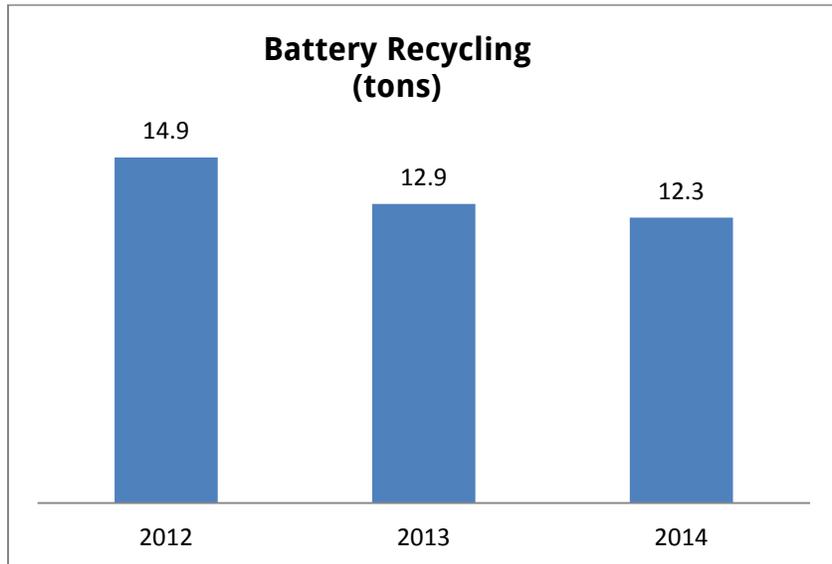


Battery Recycling

Like electronics, there are many daily household items that could wreak havoc with our health and environment if not properly recycled or disposed of in an appropriate manner.

In 2014, 12.3 tons of batteries were recycled through a recycling partnership with Batteries Plus Bulbs, in Fort Wayne. Allen County residents may drop off household batteries free of charge through the year-round recycling program.

Used batteries may be considered a hazardous waste because they may contain corrosive liquids, toxic heavy metals or reactive metals. The District ensures the batteries are appropriately packaged for transport and contracts with a company to ensure they are managed in compliance with regulatory requirements.





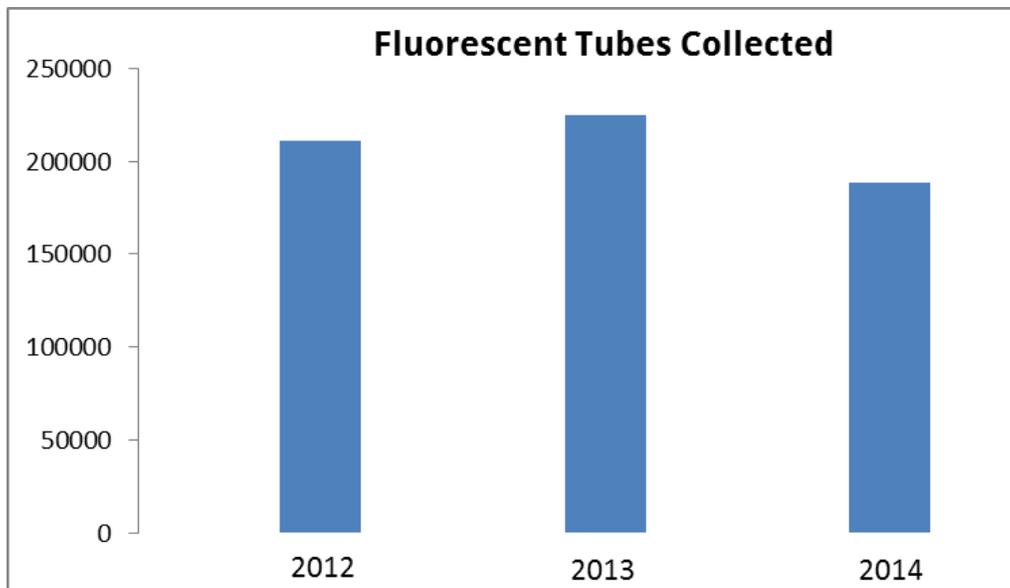
Mercury Reduction

Mercury is a highly toxic material that requires proper disposal attention when the electrical device or mercury containing apparatus or device is no longer of use.

For fluorescent tubes and light bulbs, the District contracts with a trained recycling contractor who crushes the glass for recycling, safely recovers the mercury, and recovers the aluminum for recycling.

In 2014, 188,398 feet of fluorescent tubes were collected for recycling and 9,006 bulbs and lamps were recovered and recycled. These numbers reflect both businesses and residences in Allen County.

The District works throughout the year with the Allen County Department of Health for residents to conveniently dispose of mercury thermometers, thermostats and similar items. If a school or residence experiences breakage where mercury is of concern, clean-up assistance is available and air monitoring provided to ensure no residual mercury vapors are present.

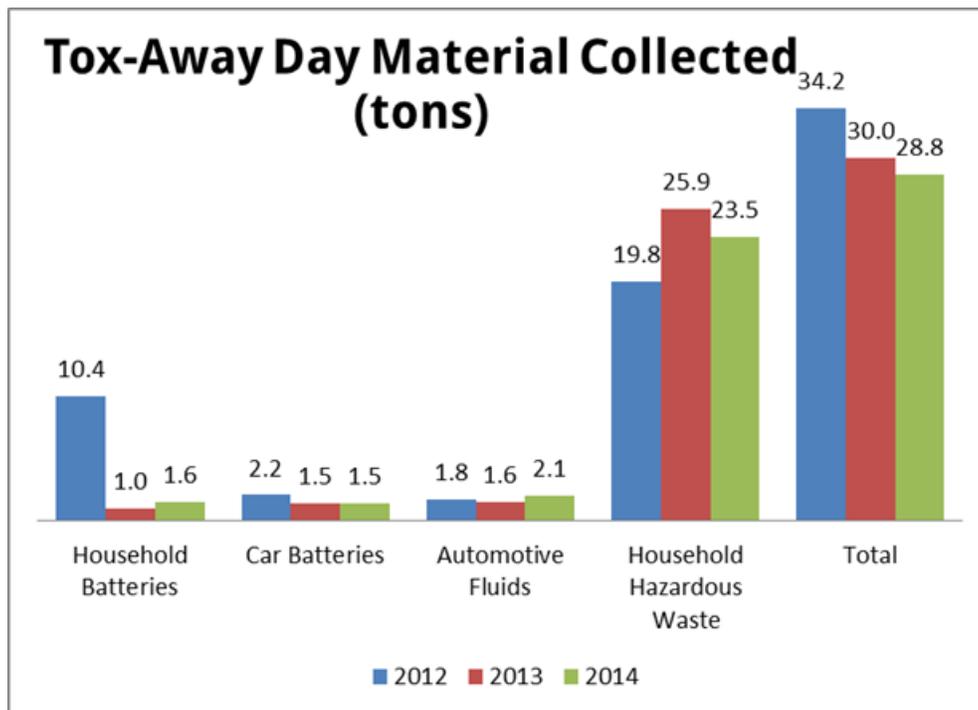


Tox-Away Day

Tox-Away Day is the District's annual event for Allen County residents and small quantity generator (SQG) businesses to safely dispose of household hazardous waste materials that should not be tossed in the trash. Because there is not a company in the county that provides this service, the District made the decision to take the lead in collecting and coordinating the safe and legal disposal of toxic, flammable, corrosive and reactive substances. Tox-Away Day is held the first Saturday after the Labor Day holiday.

In 2014, collections came from 1245 Allen County households:

Automotive Fluids:	4,242 lbs.
Car Batteries:	3,015 lbs.
Household Batteries:	3,294.25 lbs.
Household Hazardous Waste:	47,053 lbs.
Total:	57,604.25 lbs. (28.8 tons)



Tire Management Program

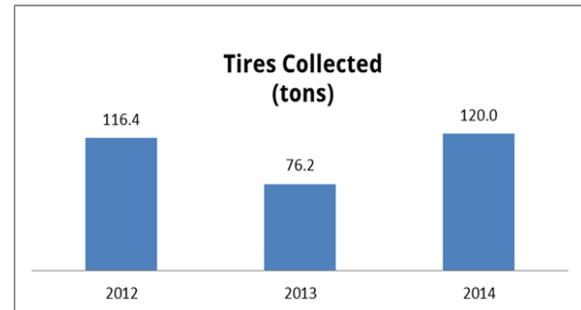
Waste tires are an accident waiting to happen if they're abandoned instead of being viewed as a marketable resource for proper recycling. Our annual Tire Amnesty Day, along with ongoing efforts with the Fort Wayne Street and Allen County Highway Departments, allow residents and neighborhood associations the opportunity to rid themselves of used tires in a responsible manner.

On Tire Amnesty Day 2014, 349 vehicles delivered 1713 tires to the District for recycling.

Millions of scrap tires sit in stock piles across Indiana. These tire piles are unsightly, act as breeding grounds for

mosquitoes, and can potentially fuel dangerous fires that release toxic gases and leave behind a residue which pollutes streams and groundwater.

In 2014, 120 tons of waste tires were successfully removed from Allen County for recycling.



Yard Waste

Burying material in a landfill does not quicken the decomposition process. In fact, it's just the opposite. Because of the Yard Waste Disposal Ban under Indiana Code (IC 13-20-9), vegetative material (leaves, brush, and woody vegetative matter more than three feet in length) is not accepted at the landfill.

Two registered yard waste composting facilities utilize the District's services for grinding branches and brush into mulch.

Visit the Composting section at our website to find out more on how to effectively utilize yard waste and household organic waste.

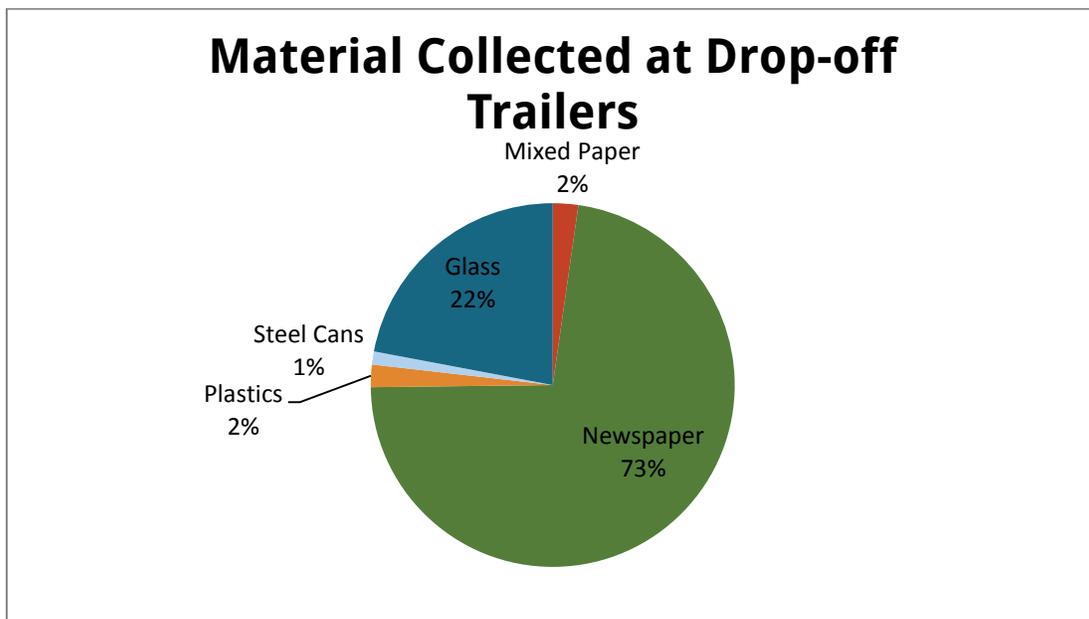
16,000 tons of yard waste was recycled into mulch in 2014. This includes Christmas trees recycled through the District's annual program which collects, transports and grinds the trees collected at numerous Allen County locations the three weeks following the holiday.



Community Drop-Off Trailers

It is important for all Allen County residents to have access to recycling. For this reason, community drop-off trailers are strategically placed throughout Allen County. Many residents have curb side recycling services, but people who live in apartments or some smaller communities may not. Community drop-off trailers fill the need for those residents. Material can be dropped off free of charge at any of the locations.

Materials accepted include aluminum cans, steel food cans, cardboard/fiberboard, newspapers/magazines, junk mail, phone books, paper of any kind, glass and plastics #1 & #2. In 2014, over 636.2 tons of material was processed through the community drop-off trailers. For a complete listing of the locations for the drop-off trailers, please visit our website at www.acwastewatcher.org.



Business Technical Assistance

The District offers several services to businesses looking to reduce waste. The Business Technical Coordinator is available to provide general information on re-using, reducing, and recycling in the workplace. Waste assessments are performed on site to more specifically advise organizations on the best ways to implement the “three R’s”. Seminars and educational presentations are given periodically to help businesses stay informed on the current waste reduction methods available to them.

Those businesses and organizations which have demonstrated great improvements in creating less waste are celebrated at our yearly ***Excellence in Recycling Awards***. Since 1992, the District has given awards in several categories.

2014 3R Award Winners

- Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo
- The Olive Twist
- Habitat for Humanity

2014 Director’s Award

- GM Fort Wayne Assembly



Awards made of recycled glass were presented to innovative Allen County waste reduction leaders at the District's annual luncheon.

Also honored at the awards luncheon are those businesses that have assisted us in our mission to reduce waste throughout Allen County.

District Partners

- Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation
- Hires Automotive Centers
- Kroger
- Town of Monroeville
- Town of Leo-Cedarville
- Sears
- Batteries Plus Bulbs
- Do It Best – Connolly's, Umbers and Grabill Hardware
- City of Woodburn
- City of New Haven
- OmniSource
- Citilink
- Sam's Club
- Allen County Highway Department



Look for this window cling at area businesses.

Honor Roll

- ACE Recycling
- Recycle Logic
- Waste Management
- Republic Services
- Earth First
- Liberty Tire Recycling
- Quincy Recycle

Educational Initiatives

Is latex paint considered household hazardous waste? Can someone speak to my students about waste reduction? How does a landfill work? Action almost always begins with education and that's why it's a vital component of the District's mission.



Holland Elementary unveiled their bench made of recycled caps and lids at a special ceremony.

In 2014, an educational pilot program, **ABC – A Bench for Caps**, debuted at Holland Elementary School in Fort Wayne. The goal of recycling 400 pounds of plastic lids or caps to achieve a six-foot bench made of recycled plastic was enthusiastically undertaken by students, their families, teachers and friends. Holland achieved their recycling mark and a bench in their school colors of black and orange with a commemorative plaque noting their accomplishment was presented to cheering children at a special ceremony. Students witnessed first-hand how small actions add up to positive consequences through waste reduction, reuse and recycling. The District will be expanding the program to other Allen County Schools.

School and community presentations, participation in company safety and environmental fairs, partnerships with other governmental units and nonprofit agencies with a waste reduction focus, and consistent educational messaging and materials were enhanced by the District in 2014. Over 60,000 Waste Watcher recycling guides were distributed this past year. In addition, the District's website was redesigned so content automatically adapts for easy viewing on a tablet or mobile device, as well as a traditional laptop computer. Mapped locations are provided for all listed recyclers in Allen County.

Civic groups and schools interested in scheduling a speaker for their class or event should contact the Community Education Coordinator at 449.7878.

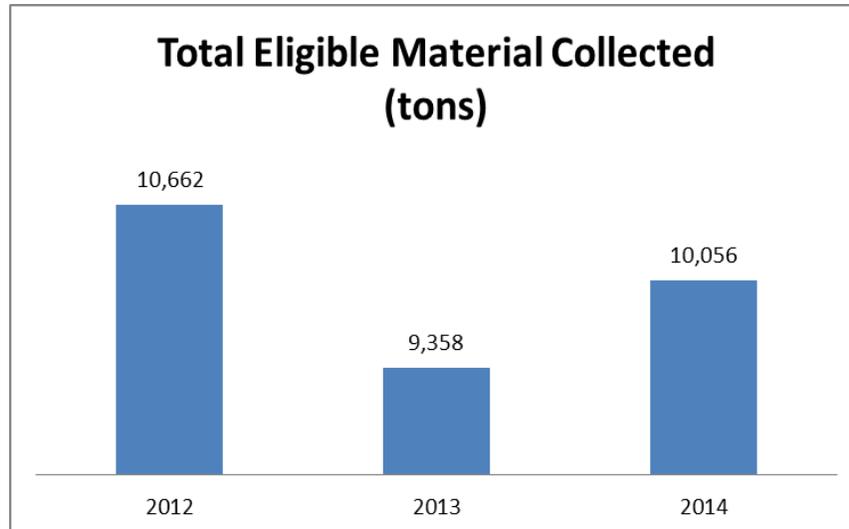


Diversion Credit/Commodities Credits

The District offers a payment or “credit” to recyclers who take in and process certain materials in Allen County. The purpose of the credit is to support growth of recycling services that might not otherwise be cost effective, ensuring the changes of low market value for recyclables are not passed onto the residents and businesses in Allen County. The market prices for qualifying materials are monitored and compared to the cost associated with processing them. The goal is that these materials will be recycled in increasing volume, diverting them from the landfill and making them profitable for the recycler.

Approved vendors submit monthly reports on material sales and must submit to facility audits.

Currently, the District pays a diversion credit on plastics, steel cans, glass and mixed paper. The rate of payment is established by the Board. This applies to the materials from the District’s residential drop off trailers as well as to those collected from businesses by haulers. The rate at this time is \$5 per ton paid on 75% of eligible material.





2014 Expenditures

PROGRAMS	EXPENDITURES
Household Hazardous Waste	\$108,236
Tire Management	\$16,760
Yard Waste Management	\$128,864
Diversion Credit Program	\$31,736
Business & Technical Assistance	\$9,687
Education & Outreach	\$8,341
Christmas Tree Recycling	\$10,055
Waste Watcher	\$9,757
Drop-Off Trailers	\$222,343
Unmanned Drop-Off Trailer	\$18,030
Electronic Management	\$21,117
Program Promotion	\$54,302
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURES	\$639,228
ADMINISTRATION	EXPENDITURES
Program Administration Expenses & Benefits	\$594,752
TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR 2014	\$1,233,980





2014 Revenues and Expenditures

	BUDGETED	ACTUAL
2014 Revenues	\$ 1,135,100	\$ 1,213,093
2014 Expenditures	\$ 1,494,926	\$ 1,233,980
Revenues less Expenditures	(\$ 359,826)	(\$ 20,887)





Rate of Reduction

Category	2014 Tons	Source of Information	Notes
DISPOSED			
Land Disposed			
Total Disposed 2014	289,754	2014 Solid Waste Disposal reported by Republic Services	Garbage received within Allen County
RECYCLING & REDUCTION			
Industrial Recycling	112,880	ACSWMD Plan/5-yr average	Diversion Credit Reports
Residential/Commercial Recycling	23,082	City of Ft. Wayne/ACSWMD Program	
Tires Recycled	120		
Composted	16,000	ACSWMD Recycling Program	
Used Automotive Fluid	2.12	ACSWMD Recycling Program	
Lead Acid Batteries	1.51	ACSWMD Recycling Program	
Household Batteries	12.3	ACSWMD Recycling Program	
Electronics Recycled	161.4	ACSWMD Recycling Program	
Household Hazardous Waste	23.55	ACSWMD Recycling Program	
Total Reduced in 2014	152,283		
Total Generated	442,037		
Rate of Reduction	34%	ACSWMD	Total Reduced / Total Generated

The Allen County Solid Waste Management District appreciates your assistance in reducing, reusing, and recycling materials to avoid unnecessary waste buried in landfills

