



SMART WASTE MANAGEMENT & REDUCTION

ACTION

SWM-1

Conduct an audit of County waste processes from contracting through to disposal and of the County’s operational waste stream.



DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

In order to identify gaps and opportunities for waste reduction and diversion, the County needs to assess the current logistical flow of its waste generation, management, and disposal. This includes how waste and recycling services are contracted, what kinds of services are provided, costs associated with them, and what training and procedures departments are implementing. Further, the County will need to understand the composition of its actual waste stream via a recycling audit in order to characterize and benchmark diversion rates and further inform programming needs. The County should consider detailing this information at the department level.

LEAD DEPARTMENT

Environment & Sustainability

OVERALL TIMEFRAME

Medium

SHORT = Less than 1 year
MEDIUM = 1 - 3 years
LONG = 3 years or more

Planning Considerations

IMPLEMENTATION STEPS	TIMEFRAME	KEY PARTNERS
<p>1 Select a consultant to lead the waste audit.</p>	<p>SHORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works Republic Services Real Property Management
<p>2 With input of key departments, leaders, and partners, inventory all facilities, vendors, and haulers used by the County for waste management.</p>	<p>SHORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant All departments
<p>3 Confirm the scope of the desired waste audit (departments, facilities, buildings) and intervention point opportunities (upstream/downstream; front/back-of-house).</p>	<p>SHORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works Real Property Management Parks & Recreation Building & Fire Prevention
<p>4 Complete waste audit.</p>	<p>MEDIUM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant
<p>5 Analyze results of waste audit and develop recommendations for key waste reduction and diversion interventions.</p>	<p>MEDIUM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Works Real Property Management Consultant

FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES

TECHNICAL

- [Best Practices for Conducting a Waste Assessment, US EPA](#)
- [Conducting a Waste Audit, Keep America Beautiful](#)

CONSIDERATIONS FOR COLLABORATION/ OVERCOMING BARRIERS

- Clarify intended outcomes with audit team leads (e.g., does the team want to understand the specific areas of opportunity at key facilities? Of key waste streams?).
- Anticipate components of future County waste data tracking system when designing the audit.
- Consult neighboring Counties or businesses (e.g., large resorts) for waste audit best practices.

MEASURING SUCCESS

OUTPUTS*

- Inventory of waste processes, facilities, vendors, and haulers
- Waste stream characterization report
- List of recommendations for waste reduction and diversion opportunities

OUTCOMES*

- Decrease in total tons of waste generated by County operations annually
- Increase in percent of County operations waste diverted annually
- Increase in volume County generated waste collected through compost annually

*An **output** describes what has been created through implementation of the action.
 An **outcome** is the level of performance or achievement that occurred based on what was created.