

State Solid Waste Management Plan

House Bill 592 (HB 592), signed into law on June 24, 1988, dramatically revised Ohio's outdated solid waste regulatory program. The law also established a solid waste management planning program to be implemented at both the state and local government levels. The bill emphasized the need to reduce Ohio's reliance on landfills for the disposal of waste by increasing solid waste reuse, recycling and minimization efforts. This fact sheet is one in a series explaining the provisions of HB 592 that make up Ohio's solid waste management planning program.



Applicable Law

Ohio Revised Code Section 3734.50.

What is the solid waste management plan?

The main purpose of the state plan is to reduce Ohio's reliance on using solid waste landfill facilities to manage solid waste. To do this, the state plan establishes the waste reduction and recycling goals for both the State and Ohio's 52 solid waste management districts (SWMDs).

The solid waste law defines eight requirements for the state plan:

- reduce Ohio's reliance on landfills to manage the State's solid wastes;
- establish objectives for solid waste reduction, recycling, reuse, and minimization and a schedule for implementing those objectives;
- establish restrictions on disposing of solid wastes when there are alternative waste management methods available;
- examine alternative methods for disposing of fly ash and bottom ash resulting from burning mixed municipal solid wastes;
- establish a statewide strategy for managing scrap tires;
- establish a strategy to promote markets for products containing recycled materials;
- establish a program for the proper separation and disposal of hazardous waste generated by households; and
- establish revised general criteria for locating solid waste facilities.

All of these requirements are necessary to ensure that solid waste is managed properly. However, the primary purpose of the solid waste planning program is to divert waste from landfills through reduction and recycling.

Who prepares the plan?

Ohio EPA prepares the state plan with advice from the Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC). SWAC is an advisory body of 19 members who represent various parties that are involved in or have an interest in solid waste management. Thus, SWAC is able to provide Ohio EPA with well-balanced input for developing the state plan.

Who decides when the state plan is complete?

Once Ohio EPA and SWAC complete a draft version of the state plan, Ohio EPA must hold public hearings around Ohio. During these hearings, interested parties can provide oral testimony regarding the draft and submit written comments to Ohio EPA.

Following completion of the hearings, Ohio EPA reviews all comments received and revises the draft state plan as appropriate.

Next, SWAC votes on whether to approve or reject the draft document. Once SWAC approves the state plan, then the director of Ohio EPA adopts the state plan. After the director adopts the state plan, it replaces the previous version as the effective state plan.

Who implements the state plan?

Ohio's SWMDs and Ohio EPA have primary responsibility for implementing the state plan. Ohio's SWMDs devote significant resources to achieving the goals of the state plan. Implementing the state plan requires collaboration with many other parties, including other state agencies, such as ODNR, local governments, the waste industry, elected officials, non-profit organizations, business owners, educators, and residents.

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How often is the state plan updated?

There is not an established schedule for updating the state plan. However, Ohio EPA, working with SWAC, must review the progress Ohio has made toward achieving the goals of the state plan every three years. If the findings from the review indicate that conditions warrant a new state plan, then Ohio EPA and SWAC prepare, approve and adopt a revised version.

The current state plan is the 2009 State Plan which was adopted on March 3, 2010. It is the fourth version of the state plan.

Related Documents

The Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM) developed a series of fact sheets describing the requirements from HB 592 that apply to Ohio's solid waste management planning program. The document numbers and titles of other available fact sheets are:

- 0196 — *House Bill 592*
- 0594 — *Ratification of Solid Waste Management District Disposal and Generation Fees*
- 0633 — *Local Solid Waste Management Planning Process*
- 0655 — *Ratification of Solid Waste Management District Solid Waste Management Plans*
- 0658 — *Solid Waste Management Advisory Council*
- 1004 — *Local Solid Waste Management Plans*
- 1005 — *Solid Waste Management Districts*

The documents listed above and the current state plan can all be found on the SWMD/Planning Page on DSIWM's Web site.

Interested parties can also contact DSIWM to obtain hard copies of the fact sheets and the current state plan.

For More Information

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For more information about the planning process and solid waste management in your area, contact your local SWMD. To determine what SWMD you live in, use the *Map of Ohio's Solid Waste Management Districts* that is available on the SWMD/Planning Page on DSIWM's Web site.

To contact your SWMD, call or e-mail the coordinator listed on the *SWMD Coordinators and Policy Committee Chairpersons List* that is available on the SWMD/Planning Page on DSIWM's Web site. You can also contact DSIWM to get information about your SWMD.