

# Welcome Everyone!

Please wait for roll call or enter your name and municipality in the chat function. Thanks!



# Washington County Recycling Coordinators Meeting

October 21st, 2020



# Agenda

- Welcome
- County Operations Update
- Communication Survey Summary
- Program Review Discussion
- Other Updates
- Wrap Up



# County Operations Update



# County Services and COVID-19

- Phase Three Continues
  - Main Doors Open
  - Appointments vs. Walk-ins
- Telecommuting
- PHE COVID-19 response
  - Incident Command System (ICS) still active
    - Food security
    - Contact tracing
    - Testing events



# County Operations

- Environmental Center
  - Hours
    - Tuesday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
    - Thursday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
    - Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
    - Saturday: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
  - COVID-19 Procedures
- Northern Yard Waste Site
  - Summer Hours: April - November
    - Wednesday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. (or dusk)
    - Friday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
    - Saturday: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
    - Sunday: Noon-4:30 p.m.
  - Winter Hours: December - March
    - Saturday: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

# Communication Survey Preliminary Summary



# Response Results (as of 10/6)

- 25 questions on recycling behaviors, communication preferences, and demographics
- ~1000 responses
- Responses from every municipality
- Representative of age and race within the county
- Half of respondents have live in county 20+ years
- Next phase: focus groups



# Survey Results (as of 10/6)

- Majority of residents recycle most of the time or always
- Most residents feel comfortable in knowledge of recycling topics
- 50% want yes/no lists to help recycle better
- Going Green Guide, Environmental eUpdate, and city/township newsletters are go-to for information
- Respondents like physical mail and emails with information
- Residents are aware of the Environmental Center, mostly for HHW

# Survey Next Steps

- Survey still open if there are additional opportunities to share in your community
- County staff is currently targeting underrepresented demographics via mail and drop-off boxes
- Survey results will be interpreted by communication consultants and final results will be shared

# Grant Program Evaluation



# Background

- Started evaluation in 2018, on hold until staffing replacement in 2020
- Evaluated using qualitative and quantitative data to answer evaluation questions
- Recommendations to optimize our existing program include changes to guidelines and updated continuum
- Continuous improvement – last evaluation done in 2012

# Grant Guideline Change Highlights

- Base Funding
  - Covers items in the Basic category of the continuum only - focus on maintaining what exists currently
- Project Funding
  - Covers items in the Improved and Advanced categories of continuum only – focus on new initiatives or improvement
- Eligibility
  - Projects must be completed and reported on
  - Any past barriers or concerns with being eligible?

# Grant Guideline Change Highlights Cont.

- Incentive/Shared Resources Funding
  - Clarification of when applied for and best practices
- Eligible Expenses
  - Cap of 75% for Administration
  - Expanded options for projects, such as drop sites and reuse programs
  - Utilization of Washington County communication information

# Continuum Change Highlights

- Lets think linear!
  - Ex: an ordinance or contract

Sustain a curbside recycling program by ordinance or contract	Update solid waste/recycling ordinance and/or contract with assistance from county to meet current state requirements and language	Update solid waste/recycling ordinance and/or contract with the assistance from the county to expand and require recycling best practices
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- More detailed break-down of categories
- Establish minimums (Basic) and what goes beyond
- Spur project ideas possibilities through break-down

# ReTRAC Change Discussion

- Phase 1
  - Simple Changes
    - Alignment with SCORE Reporting
    - Updated Continuum
    - Performance Measures?
- Phase 2
  - Explore opportunities for efficiency
  - Other things staff should consider?



# Other Updates



**BRACE YOURSELF**



**REPORTING IS COMING**

memegenerator.net

# Misc.

- Education kits still suspended but resources now available on [Education Resources Webpage](#)
- Household Prescription Take-back
  - 10/24 at Hugo City Hall, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- R&E updates
  - DCB Program
  - Bonding and financing
  - Facility improvement projects

# Questions?

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