



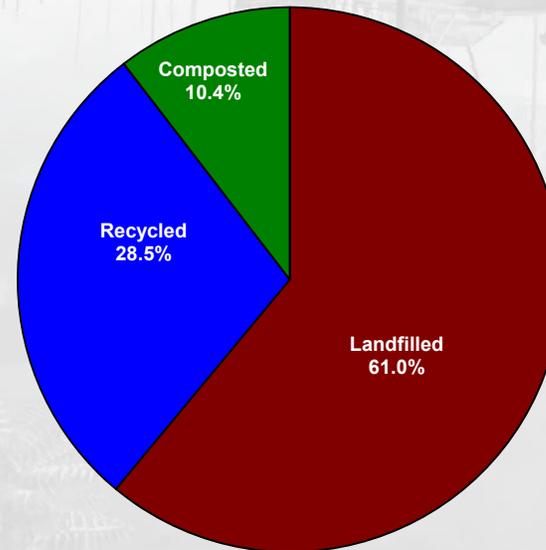
LAKE COUNTY  
Investing in People  
and Our Communities

SWALCO Presentation to  
Lake County's Public Works, Planning  
& Transportation Committee

2019 Plan Update  
Walter Willis and Jamie Zawila  
November 6, 2019

# 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, Waste Generation and Management

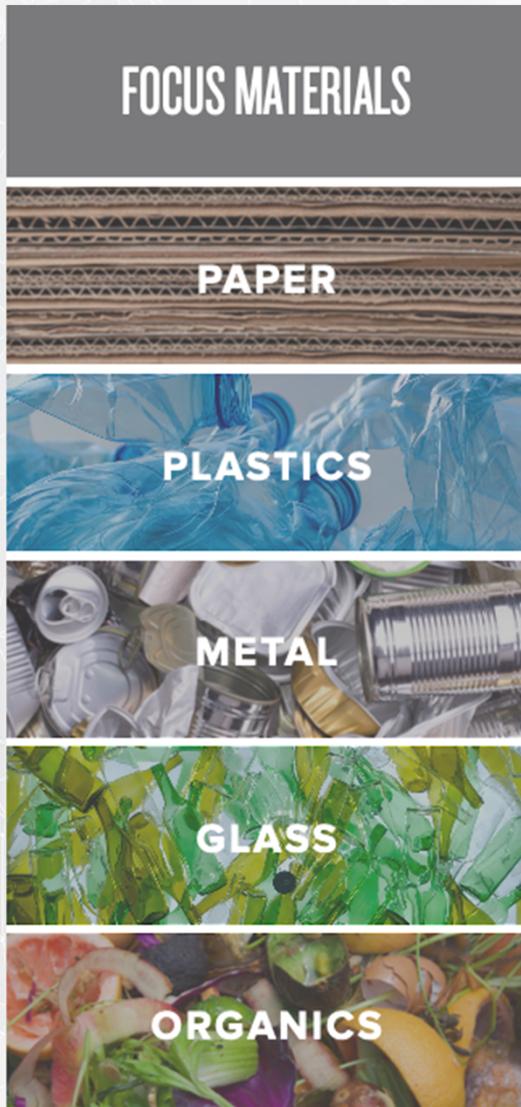
- In 2018 Lake County generated 1,063,720 tons of waste, which was managed as shown in pie chart
- The recycling rate dropped since 2014 Plan Update due to backing out residue/contamination, from 48% to 39%
- Countryside LF is scheduled to close in 2024 and Zion LF in 2027 (pending expansion not included)



## 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, Implementation of the 2014 Plan Update

- Food scrap diversion: 20 municipalities with ride along program (3 with year-round programs), 2 food scrap drop-offs, 12 restaurants in Highland Park and Grayslake, 3 schools, and County jail
- Prescription drug takeback program: 26 local law enforcement agencies brought in 12,780 pounds in 2018, nearly 41 pounds of controlled substances destroyed with street value of \$645,000
- Electronics recycling: After nearly shutting down in 2016, program back on strong footing with 3,065,168 pounds recycled in 2018
- HCW program: 2018 was first year SWALCO worked under a cost cap with IEPA of \$350,000. Costs came in under as program diverted 1,545 55-gallon drums of HCW from improper disposal in 2018
- Clothing & Textile recycling: Fourfold increase in clothing collection volumes since 2014, from 83,750 lbs. in 2014 to 310,784 in 2018; shoe volume increased from 30,740 lbs. in 2014 to 48,496 in 2018
- Education efforts: Social media presence growing with 5,700 residents signed up for SWALCO news releases, 1,350 Facebook followers and 745 Twitter followers; developed new recycling and composting guidelines

# 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, Circular Economy



## What is Circular Economy

- Move beyond "take-make-waste"
- Maximize value of a material
- Avoid landfill

## Benefits to the Region

- Economic opportunity
- Landfill diversion
- Reduced carbon emissions

Opportunity tons (Focus material currently disposed)	<b>237K</b>
Commodity Value (based on 1-yr regional average)	<b>\$30.9 M</b>
Disposal Cost (\$45/ton)	<b>\$12.1 M</b>
Total Annual Opportunity	<b>\$43.1 M</b>

# 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, Circular Economy

 **186K**  
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

 **30.7%\***  
TOTAL RESIDENTIAL DIVERSION\*

 **39%\*\***  
TOTAL DIVERSION, RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL

\* 30.7% residential diversion is based on residential curbside recycling, food scraps and yard waste data from 187,511 households in the region. Adjusted for recycling residue.  
\*\* 39% total diversion is based on reported recycling and composting from commercial, residential, and C&D sectors in the region. Adjusted for recycling residue rates.

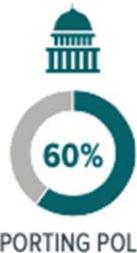
## BEST PRACTICE UPTAKE PERCENTAGE (% UPTAKE VS. LBS/HH)



## WHERE DO WE STAND? BENCHMARK COMPARISON TO OTHER US REGIONS

Use of recycling best practices results in larger quantities of materials being recycled as measured in lbs. per household. SWALCO's adoption of residential best practices is **on par with other US municipalities.**

## RELATIVE PERCENT UPTAKE FOR EACH BEST PRACTICE AREA



# 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, Greenhouse Gas

- REDUCING waste generation by **1%** and RECOVERING an additional **3%** can slash GHG emissions by **20%**.
- That's 734,501 million metric tons of carbon dioxide – equal to 157,856 passenger vehicles driven for one year



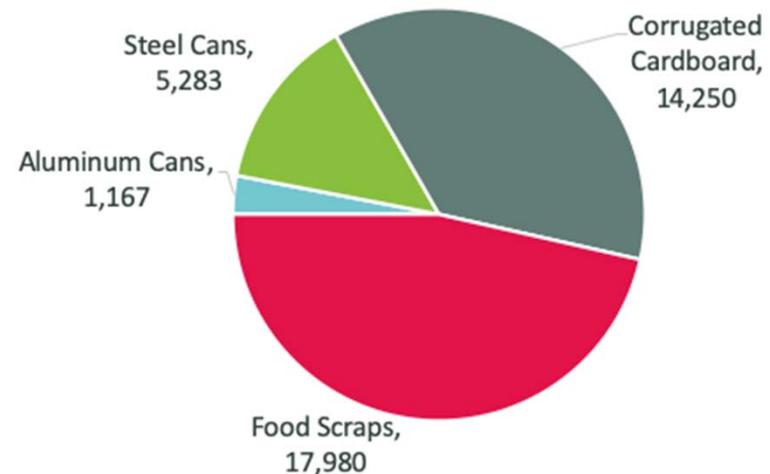
**KEY SAVINGS**  
**(Tons to Reduce)**

10,069 Food Scraps



Chart Area

**KEY SAVINGS**  
**(Tons to Divert)**



# 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, Recommendations and Requirements

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- Created new plan section (Section 6) for requirements for pollution control facilities (landfills, garbage transfer stations and anaerobic digestors)
  - Recommendations remain unchanged from 2014 Plan Update, only new or expanded landfills, garbage transfer stations or anaerobic digestion facilities are allowed to be developed in Lake County
  - Life cycle analysis requirement has been removed for a new landfill or landfill expansion, point of LCA was to compare landfills to other disposal options, not to compare a landfill to landfill
- Extended 60% recycling goal from 2020 to 2030
- Added circular economy and greenhouse gas recommendations for first time
  - Establish a public-private Circular Economy Partners entity and convene Circular Economy Recycling Optimization Workshop in winter of 2020
  - Develop and implement programs (working with CE Partners) to divert higher return greenhouse gas materials including food scraps, cardboard, steel and aluminum with goal of an additional 38,679 tons recycled and 10,069 tons of food scraps reduced at the source

## 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, Next Steps

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- SWALCO Board of Directors meets on November 14, 2019 to vote on the Plan Update
- Second meeting with PWPT Committee in December, Committee votes on whether to send to county board for December meeting
- County Board vote on the Plan Update at December 2019 meeting
- Send approved plan update to IL Environmental Protection Agency
- Begin formation of the Circular Economy Partners entity

The background image is a faded, grayscale photograph of a modern, multi-story building with a grid of windows. In the foreground on the right, there is a large, dark statue of Abraham Lincoln's head and shoulders, mounted on a tiered stone pedestal. The overall image has a light, semi-transparent appearance.

QUESTIONS?

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