

Randolph County - Five-Year Municipal Waste Management Plan Update

90 Day Public Comment Period

Per the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (SWRPA), Randolph County is soliciting public comments on a Draft update of their original 1995 Plan.

Please provide any comments to Tom Miller at:

tmiller@simapc.com by December 31, 2026



Illinois
Environmental
Protection Agency

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Print Form

FIVE YEAR MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Agency has prepared this form to assist local governments with the five year updates of municipal waste (MW) plans. Although local governments may prepare and submit a more extensive document, the Agency will consider submission of this completed form to be the plan update required under the Solid Waste Planning and Recycling Act (SWPRA).

Attach additional labeled pages as necessary.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Local Government: Randolph County

Contact Person: Michelle Huether

Address: 1 Taylor Street

P.O. Box: _____

City: Chester State: IL Zip: 62233

Telephone: 618-443-8560 Plan Adoption Date: February 27, 1995

Re-Adoption Date: October 5, 2006 Plan Update Due: December 23, 2026

1. Recommendation and Implementation Schedule Contained in the Adopted Plan

This information should be easily accessible in the plan's Executive Summary or Recommendations chapter. Briefly describe the recommendations and implementation schedule for each alternative in the adopted plan below.

a. Source Reduction

The Randolph County Recycling Coordinator has been speaking to high school and business groups on ways to maximize recycling and source reduction. Gilster Mary lee has been utilizing their food product waste for animal feed operations and the Menard Correctional facility is utilizing empty 55 gallon green cleaning supply drums as rain barrels for gardening program.

b. Recycling and Reuse

See attached (page 5).

c. Combustion for Energy Recovery

The two facilities that had combustion for energy capabilities no longer have incinerators
Dynergy in Baldwin is in the process of shutting down coal fired boiler operations and will
transition to solar in 2028 Gilster Mary Lee in Chester shut down their solid waste incinerator
more than five years ago.

d. Combustion for Volume Reduction

Incineration of solid waste is no longer being conducted in Randolph County.

e. Disposal In Landfills

All municipalities either subcontract their waste and disposal operations or mandate that
residents contract with a private hauler. Landfills utilized by Randolph County waste haulers
include, Perry Ridge, in Du Quoin, Cottonwood Hills in Marissa and North Milam in E St Louis.
Landfill life expectancy is Cottonwood Hills 69.1 yrs, Perry Ridge 36.4 yrs and N. Milam 12.6 yrs.

2. **Current Plan Implementation Efforts**

a. Which recommendations in the adopted plan have been implemented?

A recycling coordinator was hired, education programs on recycling and source reduction are
provided to schools and businesses. Recycling for aluminum, metals, cardboard and paper have
been implemented in many municipalities.

Briefly describe which recommendations were not implemented and the reasons why these were not implemented.

Due to lack of staffing and funding, an automated record keeping system has not been
established.

b. Which recommendations in the adopted plan have been implemented according to the plan's schedule?

Briefly describe which recommendations were not implemented according to the adopted plan's schedule, and attach a revised implementation schedule.

Randolph County has implemented the recommendations of the plan to the best of their ability
and available funding. A revised implementation schedule is included on page 6.

3. **Recycling Program Status**

Because the Agency's annual landfill capacity report includes data on each adopted plan's recycling status, information on your recycling percentages is not being requested on this form. This will avoid duplication of efforts.

a. Has the program been implemented throughout the county or planning area:

☒ Yes ☐ No

b. Has a recycling coordinator been designated to administer the program?

☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, when? January 1999

c. Does the program provide for separate collection and composting of leaves?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Does the recycling program provide for public education and notification to foster understanding of and encourage compliance with the program?

d. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Does the recycling program include provisions for compliance, including incentives and penalties?

☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please describe:

f. Does the program include provisions for recycling the collected materials, identifying potential markets for at least three materials, and promoting the use of products made from recovered or recycled materials among businesses, newspapers, and local governments?

☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, please describe:

There are two metals recycling facilities in the county and at least three independent recycling entities tied to municipal collections.

g. Provide any other pertinent details on the recycling program.

The County continues to employ a recycling coordinator. They have established a small reference library and continue to educate businesses and the general public on solid waste source reduction and the importance of recycling habits. Randolph County participated in an IEPA sponsored used tire collection event in November 2021 and September 2025. They also held an IEPA Household Hazardous Waste one day collection event in Sparta 2019.

4. **Current Needs Assessment Information (optional)**

Depending upon the available resources, updated waste generation data, current municipal waste recycling and disposal information, and any other recent available data may be included; this information will not be required by the Agency.

- a. MW Generated per year: 15692.15 ☒ Tons ☐ Cubic Yards
- b. MW Generation Rate: 2.96 pcd (pounds/capita/day)
- c. MW Recycled/Year: 372.15 tons
- d. MW Incinerated/Year: 0 ☒ Tons ☐ Cubic Yards
- e. MW Landfilled/Year 15320 ☒ Tons ☐ Cubic Yards

Time period for this information: 2025

5. **New Recommendations and Implementation Schedule**

Due to political, fiscal, or technological changes, a local government may choose to recommend different waste management options for the review plan. It should be noted, however, that the recycling program requirements of the SWPRA must be followed. Discuss any new recommendations included in the revised plan, and the implementation schedule to be followed.

Randolph County will explore ways to improve the general recycling program. The Recycling Coordinator will work with the Illinois EPA to coordinate potential (Units of Local Government) used tire collections and Household Hazardous Waste Collections (one day event). See attached schedule. Additional Source Reduction may be available through the pending Illinois Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) legislation that would require companies to pay for recycling programs for their packaging and paper products.

b. Recycling and Reuse

Illinois EPA (Units of Local Government) Used Tire Collections – Monroe/Randolph
November 2021 and September 2025

Reliable Sanitation - 316 tons of recycled waste collected (2025)

Carbondale Recycling Center

Paper and cardboard - 31.08 tons (2025)

Glass, metal and plastic – 25.07 tons (2025)

Recycling Programs –

Chester – curbside recycling and yard waste (compost) and city pickup days (Republic services)

Plastic recycling buyers (Scrap Management)

Red Bud – Phone, eyeglass and hearing aid recycling, Medication disposal boxes for expired or unused prescriptions. Free mulch provided to residents. Ralphs Recycling Center – Steel, aluminum and glass. They also provide community drop off for electronics and batteries.

Sparta – A tractor trailer is staged at the Washington Street recycling lot for aluminum, glass paper and cardboard and is picked up about once a month by Carbondale Recycling. The Sparta High School and Middle Schools collect paper through their science clubs and contact the Randolph County Recycling Coordinator for pickup. L&E Recycling excepts metals and aluminum.

The Randolph County Recycling Coordinator picks up paper from local businesses once a week. She also conducts periodic talks with school and business organizations about source reduction and recycling benefits.

Gilster Mary Lee in Sparta has a cardboard recycling and food waste to feed lot program.

Menard State Penitentiary operates a curbside recycling program with Ellis Grove, Chester, Evansville, and Prairie Du Rocher. The program accepts compostable waste, aluminum, paper, and vegetable scraps. Compost and vegetable scraps are used in the institution's gardening program.

5. Implementation Schedule

Years 2027-2031

	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
1. Update Solid Waste Coordinator Training	X		X		X
2. Evaluate program to fine tune programs, assess status and explore options	X	X	X	X	X
3. Update reference library	X		X		X
4. Provide a used tire collection *		X			X
5. Sign up for the IEPA E-Waste Recycling program and provide community collection events		X	X	X	X
6. Provide a household hazardous waste collection event *		X			X

* Dependent upon available IEPA Funding and Approval