



**RATIFICATION OF THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE (2026 – 2040)**

**A Fact Sheet for Community Officials – DEADLINE TO RATIFY IS August 10, 2025**

The development of the solid waste plan is a requirement of Ohio law. Every solid waste management district in Ohio must periodically update their solid waste management plan and submit it to each political subdivision to be ratified. Ratification occurs when city/village councils and township trustees representing 60% of a district's population, including its largest city and the legislative authority of the county, vote to approve the plan. If a district's plan is not ratified, the Ohio EPA will prepare the plan and order it to be implemented. **This fact sheet provides general information about Cuyahoga County's solid waste plan which is now out for ratification.**

**The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management Plan**

The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management Plan was first ratified by communities in 1994 and four times since. The Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District (the District) and its Solid Waste Policy Committee are now seeking local approval for the fifth Plan Update. **The ratification process takes place from May 10, 2025 through August 10, 2025.** This Plan Update complies with an Ohio EPA format and contains 6 chapters and 23 appendices. It describes the waste management methods to be used in the upcoming planning period and details how the ten waste reduction and recycling goals established in the State Solid Waste Management Plan will be achieved. It also describes how the Plan will be implemented by the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District.

**What's the best way to review the Plan Update?**

The plan chapters provide an executive summary of the plan. The District recommends reading the chapters for an overview of the plan and if additional information is desired, referring to the appendices for more detail. **Please find enclosed the 2026-2040 Plan Update summary presentation for your review. Your council clerk will soon receive a Plan Update Summary booklet.** The complete Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management Plan Update (2026 – 2040) is also available on the District's website at [CuyahogaRecycles.org](https://CuyahogaRecycles.org) and at the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District's office.

**Who prepared the Plan Update?**

The Plan Update was prepared by the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Policy Committee. Various stakeholders were also consulted through the 18-month process. **The Policy Committee consists of the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission members and two public members.**

**Who implements the Plan Update and how is it funded?**

The District is responsible for implementing the Plan Update which contains programs and services that support waste reduction and recycling. The District employs seven staff and is funded by a "generation fee". This fee of \$2.00 is levied on each ton of waste produced in Cuyahoga County and landfilled in Ohio. Cuyahoga County's current \$2.00 per ton fee was increased by \$0.50 per ton in 2023, only the second increase since 1994, and remains one of the lowest in Ohio. **Under this Plan Update, the generation fee remains at the current level through 2040. For comparison, the average fee statewide is \$4.74 per ton.**

**Programs and services offered through the Plan**

**All the existing programs and services offered by the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District will continue with the ratification of this Plan Update while some new programs will be initiated.** See program summary list below.

Education Services	Community Services & Programs	Expanded or New Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CuyahogaRecycles.org</li><li>• Speakers / presenters</li><li>• Residential recycling outreach</li><li>• Children's education</li><li>• Business recycling assistance</li><li>• Recycling program assistance</li><li>• Compost seminars</li><li>• Compost bin sales</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Household Hazardous Waste Program</li><li>• Scrap Tire Round-Up</li><li>• Litter Collection Program</li><li>• Special Waste Collections</li><li>• Program analysis and contracting services</li><li>• Environmental Crimes Task Force</li><li>• Health Department Funding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grants for communities</li><li>• Promote food waste, fiber, glass, yard waste drop-off super sites</li><li>• Waste Reduction Grant for schools and universities</li><li>• Volume-based fee support</li><li>• Scrap tire education and enforcement</li><li>• Expanded litter collection program</li></ul>