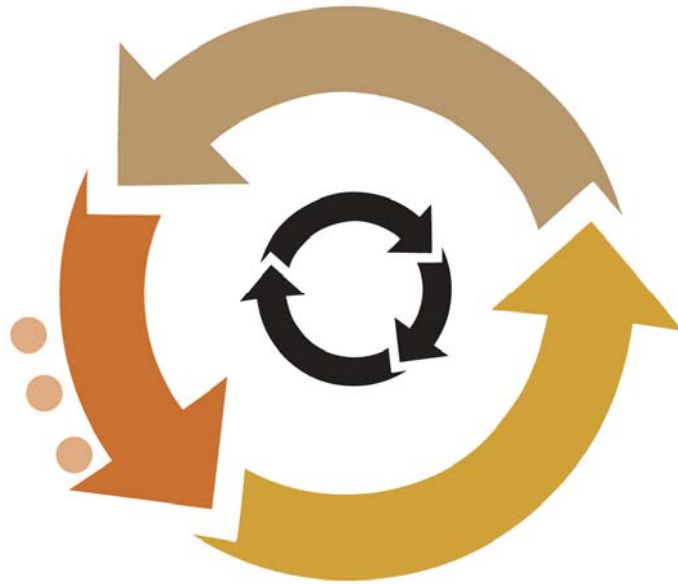


The Cycle Continues



Annual Report 2009

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Population

INCORPORATED CITIES/TOWNS

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Albion | 2,332 |
| Altona | 192 |
| Angola | 7,894 |
| Ashley | 992 |
| Auburn | 13,026 |
| Avilla | 2,417 |
| Butler | 2,673 |
| Clear Lake | 273 |
| Corunna | 247 |
| Cromwell | 498 |
| Fremont | 1,609 |
| Garrett | 5,681 |
| Hamilton | 1,233 |
| Hudson | 563 |
| Kendallville | 10,452 |
| LaGrange | 2,929 |
| Ligonier | 4,530 |
| Orland | 320 |
| Rome City | 1,666 |
| St. Joe | 466 |
| Shipshewana | 528 |
| Topeka | 1,191 |
| Waterloo | 2,165 |
| Wolcottville | 946 |

COUNTIES

| | |
|----------|--------|
| DeKalb | 41,884 |
| LaGrange | 37,172 |
| Noble | 47,601 |
| Steuben | 33,368 |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 Population Estimates,
Census 2000, Census 1990 www.census.gov



NORTHEAST INDIANA SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Serving DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble and Steuben Counties
2320 W 800 S. P.O. Box 370 Ashley, IN 46705-0370 • (260) 587-3063 • Fax (260) 587-3523

January 12, 2010

Citizens of Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District:

Please read carefully through the pages of this 2009 annual report. You will see that our biggest challenge remains managing growth of popular programs, finding adequate funding to meet demand, and helping to lead the way to achieve the next level of understanding regarding Integrated Solid Waste Management.

The District continues to manage the disruption and uncertainty associated with new property tax legislation and on-going implementation of new law, impacting local units of government. We continue to maintain a very conservative approach to spending (essential spending only), maximizing services from our third party contractors and continue challenging staff to do more with less. We have stayed well within the FY09 budget in spite of difficult and challenging decisions with respect to programs and operations.

The Solid Waste District continued to cut costs by delaying re-bid of Household Hazardous Waste services. We continue to see cost savings as a result of Drop-off program reconfiguration and other measures taken in 2008. Postponing bid and acquisition of composting equipment, and increasing fee revenue by selling more compost products has allowed the District's operating budget for 2009 to decrease by \$20,000.

The District (in spite of all the above challenges) was able to conduct (and pay for) a Tox-away day in Lagrange on Saturday, June 20, 2009. District full and part-time staff recovered over eight tons of toxic material. August 15th, 2009 brought a special electronics collection event yielding three tons of end-of-life televisions and computers. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronics (E-waste) recycling continues to be extremely popular. Discarded electronics is one of the fastest growing segments of municipal solid waste, 1.2 million TV's and computers per year in Indiana alone. More folks than ever this year inquired about, and purchased, the District's finished compost, a value added product of the Yard Waste Composting Program. It is most gratifying to see the high value our constituents place on programs and services such as the Yard Waste Composting Program.

Please be sure to visit the District's expanded website at www.niswmd.org. Look up needed program information, and contact the District directly. The website continues to grow, and has become an invaluable tool to better communicate and provide more service, more efficiently. Drop us a line through our website, or call us at 1-800-777-5462 as we always enjoy hearing from the people we serve.

Sincerely,

Ron L. Smith, President Solid Waste Board of Directors
Steuben County Commissioner



Board of Directors

Executive Committee

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Ron Smith | President |
| Phil Curtis | First Vice President |
| Sara Tubergen | Second Vice President |
| Mayor Richard Hickman | Secretary |
| Don VanWye | Treasurer |

Full Board

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Don Kaufman | County Commissioner, DeKalb |
| Don VanWye | County Councilman, DeKalb |
| David Wiant | Mayor, City of Garrett |
| Norm Yoder | Mayor, City of Auburn |
| Fred Brown | County Councilman, LaGrange |
| Phil Curtis | County Commissioner, LaGrange |
| Yvonne Eash | President, Topeka Town Council |
| Terry Helmer | President, LaGrange Town Council |
| Patty Fisel | Mayor, City of Ligonier |
| Suzanne Handshoe | Mayor, City of Kendallville |
| Don Moore | County Councilman, Noble |
| Jack Herendeen | County Commissioner, Noble |
| Richard Hickman | Mayor, City of Angola |
| Loretta Smart | President, Fremont Town Council |
| Ron Smith | County Commissioner, Steuben |
| Sara Tubergen | County Councilwoman, Steuben |

District Staff

Full - Time Staff

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Steve Christman | Executive Director |
| Pam DeCamp | Program Coordinator |
| Rich Caston | Mechanic/Supervisor |
| Joe Baysinger | Senior Operator |
| Jenni Franz | Program Specialist |
| Linda Zirkle | Administrative Assistant |

Part-Time & Seasonal Staff

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Charlie Atkison | DeKalb Compost Lot |
| Dick Bond | DeKalb Compost Lot |
| Richard Freed | DeKalb Compost Lot |
| Gene Hamm | Field Staff |
| Richard Heller | Field Staff |
| Howard Johnson | Steuben Compost Lot |
| Al Silvers | Field Staff |
| Zeth Snook | Field Staff |
| Larry Snyder | Steuben Compost Lot |
| Bill Stackhouse | Steuben Compost Lot |

Citizen Advisory Committee

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Chad Arnold | Industry Representative |
| Colleen Hake Boyd | Citizen Representative |
| Scott Martin | Industry Representative |
| Clark Reed | Citizen Representative |
| Max Robison | Citizen Representative |

Rural Recycling Drop-off Program

How are materials recycled after they are left in the drop-off bins?

#1 & #2 Plastics: Plastics are sorted by identification code (#1, #2) and then by color. Containers are crushed into bales and bales are shredded into flakes. Flakes from #1 plastics can be used to manufacture carpet, clothing and other fabrics. Flakes from #2 plastics are used to make plastic grocery bags, milk cartons and plastic bins.

Steel Cans: Magnets are used to separate the steel cans from other recyclables. The layer of tin is removed and the remaining steel is melted. Melted steel is poured into casters and rolled into flat sheets. The sheets of steel can be molded into new products such as steel cans, car parts or construction materials.

Aluminum Cans: Cans are gathered and condensed into bales. The bales are then shredded or crushed to create small chips of aluminum. The chips are melted and blended with virgin material. This blended metal can be made into new cans and filled by beverage companies.

Newspaper & Magazines: Paper is shredded and mixed with water to create a pulp. The pulp is cleaned and then blended into slush. Additives are mixed with the slush and pumped onto a moving screen. All excess water is removed and the finished paper is wound into rolls. These rolls are ready to be used to create new paper products.

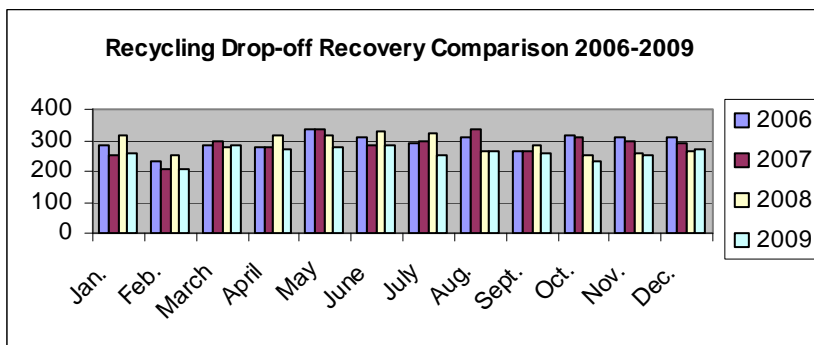
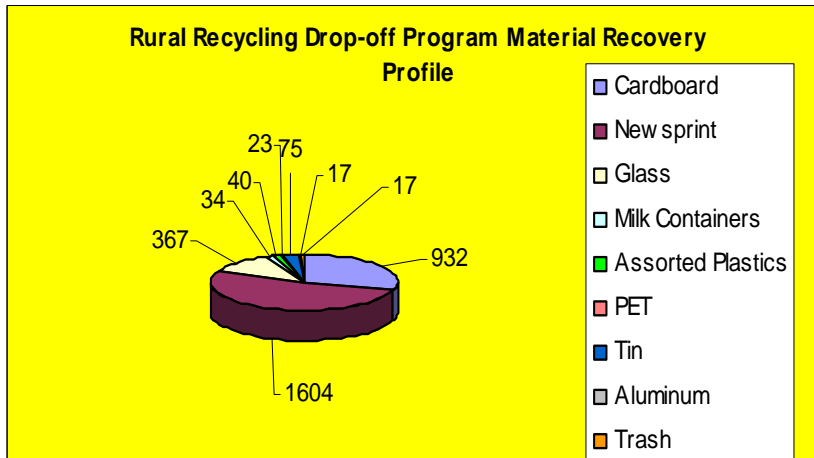
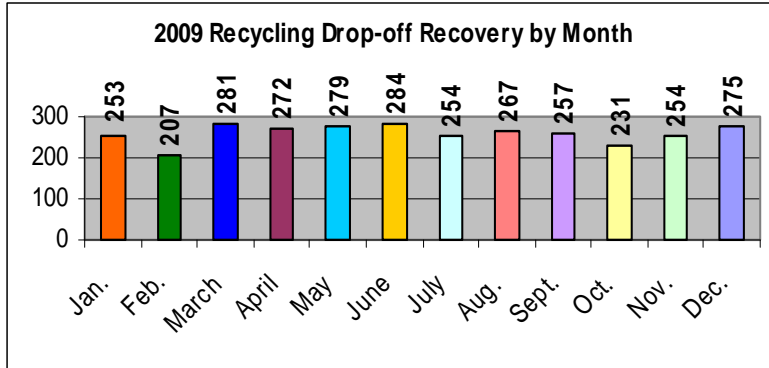
Cardboard: Cardboard is mixed with water to create pulp. The pulp is combined with a wood shaving pulp to give the paper strength and durability. The mixed pulp can be turned into new cardboard or combined with other pulp to make paper towels, toilet paper and some cat litters.

Source: Various recycling websites

Recycling Drop-off Recovery (tons)

| Station | Jan. | Feb. | March | April | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| ALBION | 17 | 12 | 14 | 18 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 17 | 18 | 184 |
| ANGOLA | 32 | 27 | 43 | 38 | 45 | 44 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 32 | 33 | 35 | 434 |
| AUBURN | 46 | 35 | 47 | 46 | 50 | 43 | 39 | 44 | 42 | 44 | 44 | 43 | 523 |
| AVILLA | 15 | 12 | 16 | 15 | 20 | 15 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 184 |
| BUTLER | 9 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 129 |
| FREMONT | 9 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 116 |
| HAMILTON | 5 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 69 |
| KENDALLVILLE | 32 | 27 | 39 | 38 | 38 | 38 | 32 | 39 | 33 | 27 | 33 | 36 | 412 |
| LAGRANGE | 21 | 17 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 20 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 16 | 20 | 23 | 242 |
| LIGONIER | 16 | 14 | 19 | 17 | 14 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 17 | 18 | 198 |
| NISWMD | 7 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 96 |
| ORLAND | 9 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 10 | 9 | 112 |
| SHIPSHEWANA | 8 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 104 |
| TOPEKA | 9 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 119 |
| WOLCOTTVILLE | 18 | 11 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 18 | 16 | 19 | 16 | 13 | 14 | 20 | 192 |
| TOTALS | 253 | 207 | 281 | 272 | 279 | 284 | 254 | 267 | 257 | 231 | 254 | 275 | 3,114 |

All figures rounded to nearest whole number



Yard Waste Composting

The District is proud to continue the yard waste composting program. A lot of hard work goes into running the lots. Two District employees spent 609 hours grinding, turning windrows and completing general lot maintenance. There are also staff members who man the gates and assist customers during the operating season, April through November.

2009 was a year of repairs for the composting equipment. As the equipment ages, wear and tear increases. The twelve year old Morbark tub grinder had a drive line failure that required extensive repairs. District field staff was right back to work the day the grinder was completed.

A cool spring led to delays in the release of compost. This is the first year the District had a waiting list of people wanting to purchase this natural product. 2,079 cubic yards of compost were sold to 740 customers! This mixture of decomposed leaves and yard clippings continues to increase in popularity.

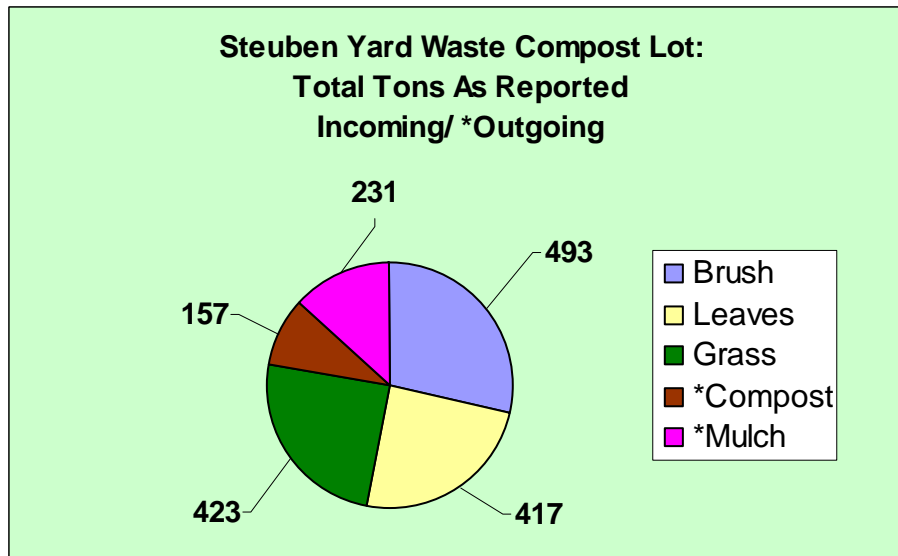
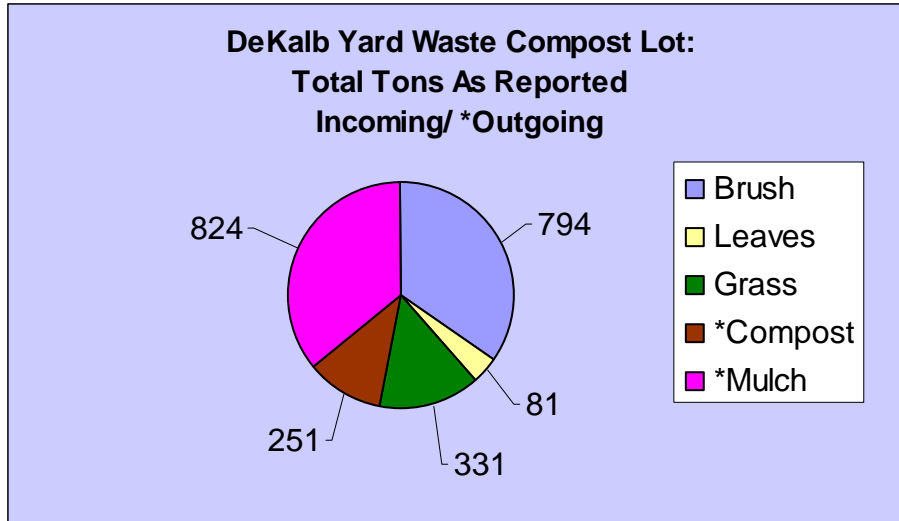


Brush pile at lot



Compost pile at lot

Composting Results



Composting Results

LaGrange County Recovery Data:

Compost: 1,752 tons

Mulch: 2,291 tons

Noble County Recovery Data:

Compost: 2,729 tons

Mulch: 2,016 tons

District Office Recovery Data:

Compost: 13 tons

PLEASE NOTE: The LaGrange and Noble County yard waste compost lots are un-manned drop-off configurations. The data reported by NISWMD is from District field staff as they complete routine grinding, windrow turning and lot maintenance activities as well as in-house worksheets and formulas.

TOTAL TONS HANDLED IN 2009:

12, 803 tons

Household Problem Waste Program

- District Household Problem Waste Program operates on Fridays mid-April through mid-November from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.
- 1,366 residents brought materials to recycle during these hours.
- There were 1,594 electronic devices recycled in 2009. This was an increase of approximately 87% from 2008.
- A Saturday e-waste collection event was held at the District office and three tons of electronics were received.
- June 20th was a Household Problem Waste Collection Day in LaGrange. The event was able to divert eight tons of material from the waste stream.
 - Top 5 Publicity Methods
 1. Newspaper
 2. Radio
 3. Flyers
 4. Word of Mouth
 5. Other
 - Top 5 Participating Cities/Towns:
 1. LaGrange
 2. Wolcottville
 3. Topeka
 4. Howe
 5. Shpshewana



Household Problem Waste Program

| MATERIALS | TONS RECOVERED |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Aerosols | 2 |
| Batteries (dry cell) | 10 |
| Batteries (lead acid) | 4 |
| Flammable Liquids/Solids | 2 |
| Fluorescent Bulbs | 6 |
| Mercury Related | .7 |
| Oil | 8 |
| Paint Related - Latex | 21 |
| Paint Related - Oil Based | 16 |
| Pesticides | 3 |
| Propane Cylinders | .4 |
| Miscellaneous* | .7 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 74 |

| PROGRAM | TONS RECOVERED |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Books | 11 |
| Electronics | 54 |
| Shoes | 6 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 71 |

*Miscellaneous Material includes (but is not limited to) acids, caustics & oxidizers.

Public Outreach



Edible Landfill activities are requested from many local organizations and school groups. The activity allows participants to learn about landfill construction and how to divert waste.



The NISWMD display board presents a variety of current information. The board travels with District staff on outings and is permanently displayed in the reception area of the office.



Participants at the first annual DeKalb County Earth Day were able to spin the wheel and learn fun facts about recycling.



During an education presentation, students were given a chance to play an interactive game about animals and how our choices can affect their survival.

Waste Minimization

Businesses in the surrounding area were much more receptive to seeking out advice on how to strengthen their company's commitment to become "green" this year than any other year in District history. 196 companies contacted the District, many of which were first time callers.

Whether you are a managing director or a receptionist, a corporation or a one-man office, there are things you can do to help both your budget and the planet. Simple changes in your workplace can add up to a win-win situation for you and the environment.

Most requested was assistance to identify immediate changes that could be made. Becoming "green" is much more than recycling. Becoming energy efficient, decreasing waste water and using less toxic cleaners are all part of the "green" movement.

If you make just one office practice more environmentally friendly, you will make a difference. Let the District answer your questions; provide you with tips and most importantly help your company save money while reducing environmental impacts and boosting employee morale. Check out our website at www.niswmd.org for further information.

Impacts of Recycling

Climate change, Green House Gas (GHG) emissions, carbon footprint, sustainability and renewable energy resources have all become the latest catch phrases and topics of discussion transcending all sectors of life, including integrated solid waste management.

The Solid Waste District (District) utilized the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Waste Reduction (WARM) Model to calculate, in general terms, the beneficial impacts the District programs have on our environment. The following results were realized through the District's waste reduction and recovery programs.

Total Change in Energy Use: (81,960) million BTU

| This is equivalent to... | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Conserving | 764 | Households' Annual Energy Consumption |
| Conserving | 14,131 | Barrels of Oil |
| Conserving | 659,448 | Gallons of Gasoline |

Total Change in GHG Emissions: (12,701) MTCO₂E

| This is equivalent to... | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--|
| Removing | 2,326 | Passenger Cars from the Roadway Each Year |
| Conserving | 1,441,617 | Gallons of Gasoline |
| Conserving | 5,291,937 | Cylinders of Propane Used for Home Barbeques |
| Conserving | 66 | Railway Cars of Coal |
| | 0.00067% | Annual CO ₂ emissions from the U.S. transportation sector |
| | 0.00053% | Annual CO ₂ emissions from the U.S. electricity sector |

A special thanks to Sara Hartwell, US EPA Staff for assistance.

Curbside Recycling Programs

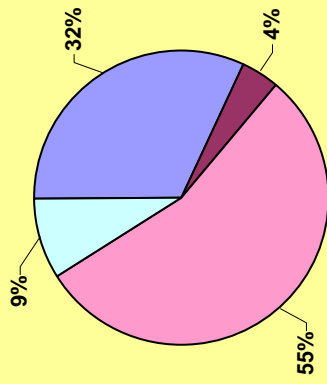
| Service Area | Service Provider | Program Type | Tons Recovered |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Angola | Republic Services | Curbside | 426 |
| Auburn | Republic Services | Curbside | 409 |
| Clear Lake | Republic Services | Curbside | Calls Not Returned |
| *Crooked Lake, Fremont, Hamilton, Lake James, Lake Gage, Snow Lake | Allied Waste Services | Curbside | 197 |
| Garrett | City Operated | Manned Drop-off | 87 |
| Waterloo | Republic Services | Curbside | 154 |
| Avilla, Kendallville, Albion | Noble County Disposal | Curbside (Subscription only) | 336 |
| TOTAL TONS RECYCLED | | | 1,609 |

* Allied Waste combines Crooked Lake, Fremont, Hamilton, Lake James, Lake Gage and Snow Lake tonnage.

Office Paper Recycling Programs

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| DeKalb County Courthouse | 26 |
| LaGrange County Courthouse | 3 |
| Noble County Courthouse | 13 |
| Steuben County Courthouse | 8 |
| NISWMD | 6 |
| TOTAL TONS RECYCLED | 56 |

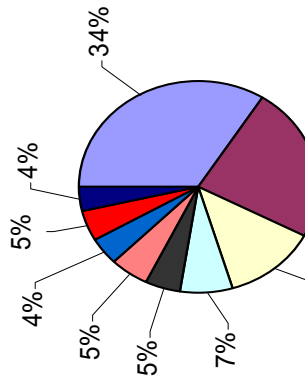
FY 2009 Budget Expenditure Distribution



- Personnel-01
- Personnel-02
- Services/Other Charges-03
- Capital-04

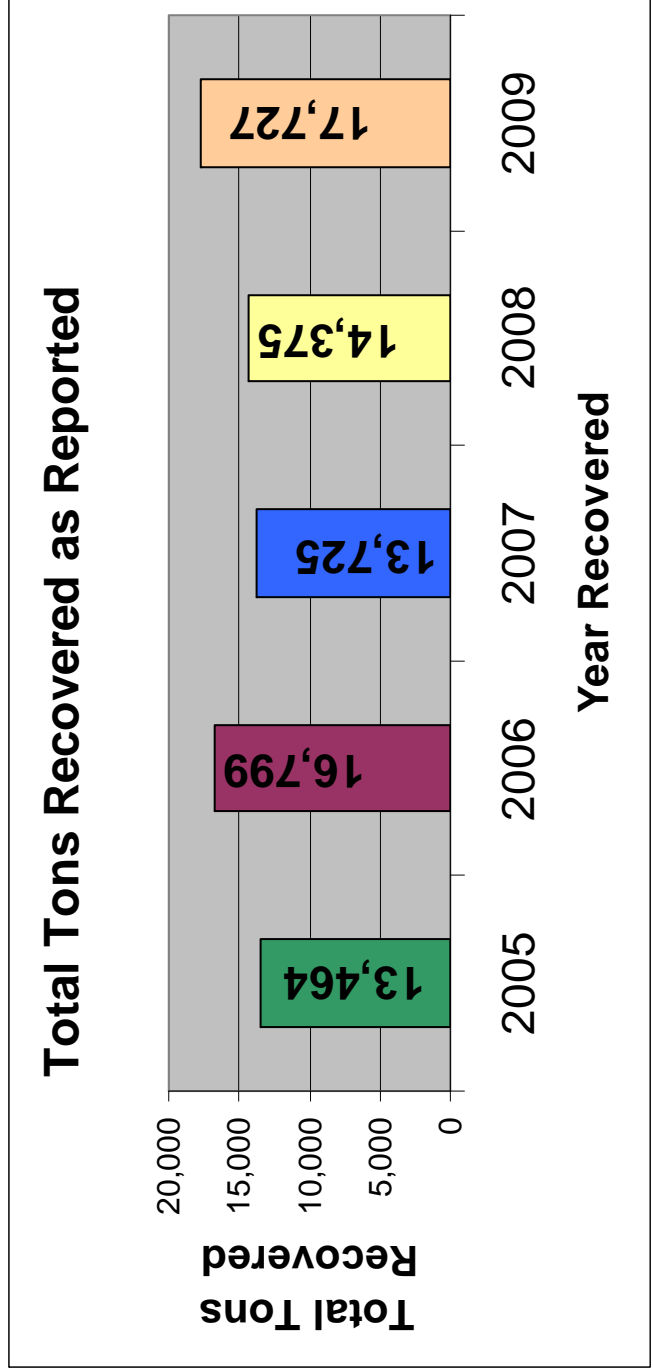
The 01 Personnel category includes full-time employees, part-time employees, overtime, social security, PERF, unemployment and health insurance.

Expenditure Distribution by Program Category 2009



| |
|---|
| Recycling Services - \$432,548.15 |
| Composting Services - \$293,696.25 |
| Household Hazardous Waste - \$160,016.75 |
| Education and Public Info. - \$91,099.35 |
| E-Waste Services - \$60,618.35 |
| Pollution Prevention & Waste Minimization - \$66,115.65 |
| Solid Waste Planning (Admin) - \$53,648.85 |
| Solid Waste Facilities - \$58,235.25 |
| Leg./Gov. Relations - \$47,157.90 |

Expenditures by program category figures taken from a program cost allocation spreadsheet (an in-house, not-for-release, working document) revised January 2009 Executive Director.



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Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District



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P.O. Box 370
Ashley, Indiana 46705
800-777-5462**

**Learn more about our programs &
services at www.niswmd.org**