

The Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board

Adopted: As Amended January 28, 2015

The Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board (SWMCB) is a joint powers board comprised of two commissioners from Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties. To enhance intergovernmental coordination, the Board also includes ex-officio representation from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

The goals of the SWMCB are to increase the efficiency and environmental effectiveness of the Region's solid waste management system so that taxpayers of the Region benefit. Member counties use the SWMCB as the regional forum through which collaborative opportunities that cost-effectively improve waste management outcomes are identified and implemented.

2015 Legislative Principles

1. **The SWMCB supports the State's statutory goals in 115A.02 including the solid waste management hierarchy** that prioritizes recycling, composting and processing over landfilling.
 - A) **The SWMCB supports the MPCA's enforcement of Minn. Stat. §473.848** by amending facility and landfill permits to ensure resource recovery processing capacity is fully utilized. Enforcement is not the responsibility of the Counties.
 - B) **The SWMCB supports developing a measurement system** to provide more accurate measurement of progress in meeting the region's waste management hierarchy goals as well as the policy statements of the Waste Management Act to protect the state's land, air, water and other natural resources and the public health.
 - A) **The SWMCB supports MPCA's efforts to improve the collection and reporting of solid waste data** so that Minnesota's solid waste system becomes more efficient, transparent and accountable.

2. **The SWMCB supports product stewardship programs that include the basic principles of producer responsibility to provide** environmental protection, local government cost recovery, indemnification of government from any product liability, and measurable and enforceable goals.
 - A) The SWMCB supports the implementation of paint stewardship consistent with these principles.
 - B) The SWMCB supports statutory changes to improve E Waste product stewardship consistent with these principles.

3. **The SWMCB supports SCORE funding to supplement local government funding of recycling and** further increase jobs, enhance economic development, and incentivize local governments to augment current recycling programs. To protect the integrity of the Solid Waste Management Tax and its uses originally identified by the Legislature, SWMCB

will specifically advocate that all such tax dollars being diverted to other purposes be refocused on funding SCORE and related recycling.

- A) The SWMCB supports an improved business environment for Minnesota with the development of recycling market initiatives** to enhance the State's economy and support the State's recycling goals.
- B) The SWMCB supports county/business partnerships** to educate and assist in the implementation of the Commercial recycling mandate.
- C) Amending Minn. Stat. Section 115A.557 to include the use of SCORE dollars for organic management methods in addition to composting including food to people, food to animals and anaerobic digestion.**

**Please visit these websites for additional information about the
Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board:**

www.swmcb.org

www.rethinkrecycling.com