

# NH Solid Waste Plan Overview

Statutory Requirements, Then  
Existing Solid Waste Plan Contents  
Statutory Requirements, Now

# Statutory Requirements, Then

- RSA 149-M
  - RSA 149-M:2 (I) – Set waste reduction goal - 40% minimum weight diversion of solid waste landfilled or incinerated on a per capita basis.
  - RSA 149-M:6 (VI) - Tasks DES with preparing and updating the state's solid waste plan
  - RSA 149-M:29 (I) Beginning October 1, 1998, and every 6 years thereafter, the department shall update the state's solid waste plan.

# Existing Solid Waste Plan

- Updated in 2003
- Contents
  - 7 guiding principles used to carry out DES objectives
  - 5 goals
    - Sub-goals
    - Objectives
  - Guidance/Reference Documents, Charts, and Lists

# Existing Solid Waste Plan

- 7 principles

1. The responsibility for solid waste management is shared between state government, local government and industry.
2. Manufacturers must subscribe to product stewardship and take responsibility for their role in source reduction, altering the manufacturing process to avoid using toxic materials to produce a product and minimizing the volume of packaging.
3. Whenever possible, solid waste should be reused, recycled or composted rather than disposed of by incineration or landfilling.
4. The public and private sectors should have access to solid waste management options at a competitive cost.
5. Planning for the future of solid waste management is critical to our ability to meet our needs.
6. Education, compliance assistance and enforcement actions are necessary to promote compliance.
7. Proper closure and post-closure care of solid waste landfills are critical to protection of the State's waters

# Existing Solid Waste Plan

- 5 goals

1. Reduce the volume of the solid waste stream
2. Reduce the toxicity of the solid waste stream
3. Maximize diversion of residential and commercial/industrial solid wastes
4. Assure disposal capacity for New Hampshire
5. Assure solid waste management activities are conducted in a manner protective of human health and the environment

# Existing Solid Waste Plan

- Guidance/Reference documents
  - Locations/types of SW facilities
  - Solid waste districts
  - Solid wastes generated by type and town
  - Wastes that could be diverted
  - Strategies for managing specific wastes

# Statutory Requirements, Now

- RSA 149-M:61 (III) – Added in 2021
  - The solid waste working group shall advise DES in the development of the solid waste management plan required by RSA 149-M:29
- RSA 149-M:29 (I) - Updated in 2021
  - Next update to SW plan due October 1, 2022
  - Future updates every 10 years
  - Plan must include:
    - Goals, strategies, opportunities, and actions to reduce solid waste generation through source reduction, to increase diversion, and achieve the state's solid waste disposal goal.
    - Goals, strategies, and actions necessary to maintain and ensure adequate disposal capacity for management of waste generated in New Hampshire.
- RSA 149-M:2 (I) – Updated in 2021
  - Set waste disposal reduction goal (reduce the quantity by weight of solid waste disposed by 25% by the 2030 and 45% by 2050)

# SWWG – Sub-committees

- **Waste Reduction & Management of “Difficult” Wastes** – this subcommittee would explore opportunities to advance source reduction, i.e., ‘waste avoidance,’ and would also investigate alternative outlets for difficult-to-manage wastes (wastes that currently have limited outlets besides disposal, like contaminated soils, bulky wastes, certain components of C&D, wastewater treatment sludge, etc.)
- **Recycling & Composting** – this group would focus on opportunities to support the more traditional forms of diversion: recycling and composting. What does NH need to advance in these areas? What are the gaps?
- **Alternate Waste Management Technologies** – this subcommittee would explore opportunities to advance alternate technologies and methods for diversion, waste conversion, waste-to-energy, etc. This could include things like anaerobic digestion, pyrolysis, gasification, etc.