

MANAGEMENT METHODS

(Management Methods in order of preference)

Source Reduction *(also known as Waste Prevention and Reduce & Reuse):*

This is the most preferred method because it can reduce system costs and resource consumption. Source Reduction stops waste at the source because it avoids that item's entry into the waste stream. It also decreases the amount of material used in manufacturing, increases a product's useful life, and encourages more efficient consumer use of materials.

Repair & Reuse: The collection of used items, such as electronics, electrical appliances, furniture, clothing, bedding, toys, musical instruments, vacuums, lamps, etc., to refurbish and repurpose them.

Recycle & New Product Feedstock:

This method is the collection of materials that might become waste, such as glass, aluminum, steel, plastic, paper, etc. and the sorting and processing of these to manufacture as new products. When recycled, these materials create new product feedstock instead of using virgin resources. The new products may or may not be similar to the original product. This method prevents items being put into landfills and conserves natural resources.

Manufacturer Take-Back: A program in which manufacturers take back older items, such as electronics and appliances for reclamation of parts and metals.

Mulch & Compost: The decomposition of organic waste, such as food scraps and yard trimmings, to produce natural fertilizers and soil additives.

Waste to Energy: The creation of energy from waste materials that do not have a second life. Examples include fats, oil, and grease becoming supplemental and biodiesel fuels, and ash from incineration being converted into energy.

Incineration: The process of burning solid waste under controlled conditions.

Landfill: The disposal of solid waste by burying in the ground between layers of earth.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT



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BEYOND LANDFILLS & INCINERATION

Today's economic and environmental concerns are impacting the way local governments manage solid waste. It's crucial to understand all the tools available to maximize material recovery and conserve natural resources.

The most effective approach to Solid Waste Management is a combination of methods. *Combination* is important because no single approach will solve the challenge. Across the country, many cities and counties have found creative ways to reduce and better manage their municipal solid waste, including:

- *Source Reduction*
- *Repair & Reuse*
- *Recycle & New Product Feedstock*
- *Manufacturer Take-Back*
- *Mulch & Compost*
- *Waste to Energy*
- *Incineration*
- *Landfill*



SOLID WASTE: COLLECTION & MANAGEMENT METHODS

(Management Methods in order of preference)

