

A light blue map of the Houston-Galveston Area Council region, showing county boundaries. The map is centered in the background of the slide.

Regional Solid Waste Grants Program Legislative Report

Solid Waste Disposal Act

- Councils of Governments
 - Fund local and regional solid waste projects
 - Issue a biennial report to the Texas Legislature



School recycling program in action

Surveillance camera for illegal dumping enforcement



Funding



Household hazardous waste collection event

- Tipping fees collected
- Money allocated to 24 Councils of Governments

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

Regional Solid Waste Grants Program

Funding Report for Fiscal Years 2018/2019



IMPACTS & RESULTS IN YOUR REGION

FY 2018/2019 By the Numbers

240

Grants Funded

\$6,107,585

In Grant Funding



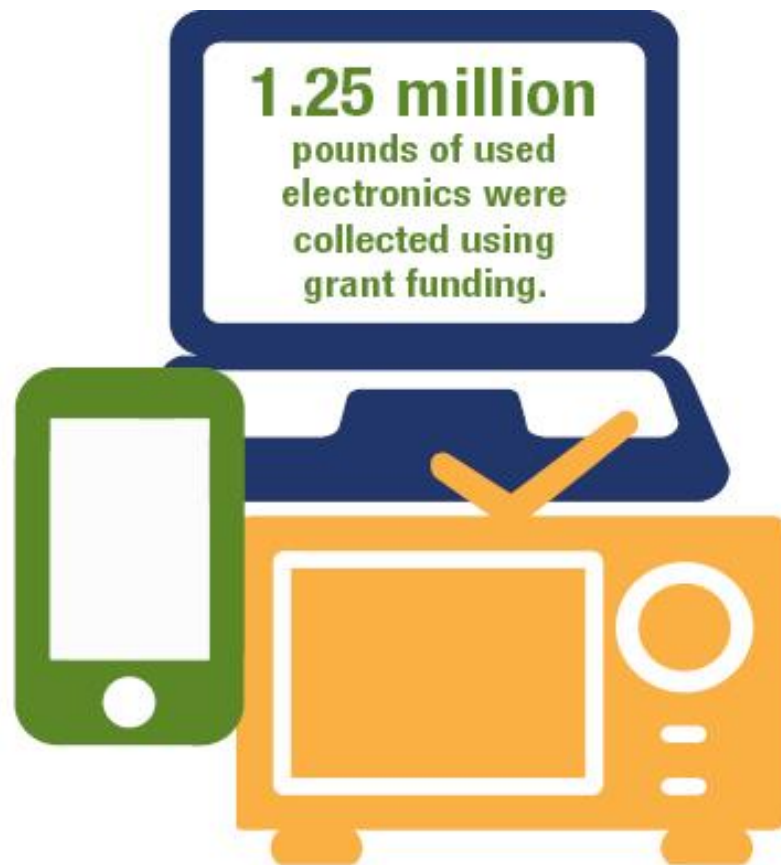
Illegal dumping of scrap tires



Partners collected enough left-over paint to trace a line around the State of Texas

23 times.

"Paint Brush" icon by Eden Clairicia and "Texas" icon by Leonardo Schneider from thenounproject.com



1.25 million
pounds of used
electronics were
collected using
grant funding.



"Criminal" icon by Gan Khoo Lay and "Trash" icon by Marianna Marozzi from thenounproject.com



"Cowboy" icon by Artem Kovyazin from thenounproject.com

Grantees
reached out to
Texans through
39,300
mass media
activities.

Grantees collected
over 213,000 tires.

When stacked
together, that's
taller than the
height of

511

Texas Capitol Buildings.



Regional Solid Waste grantees diverted

17 million

pounds of recyclables, enough to cover more than 29 football fields with one foot of recyclables.



97,800

Texas students attend a school district with a grant-funded recycling program.

"School" icon by Hea Poh Lin from thenounproject.com



"Football Helmet" icon by Edward Boatman, "Trash" icon by Marianna Marozzi, "Trash" icon by Chicabubble, and "Goal Post" icon by Valentina Velcro from thenounproject.com

Challenges and Success Stories

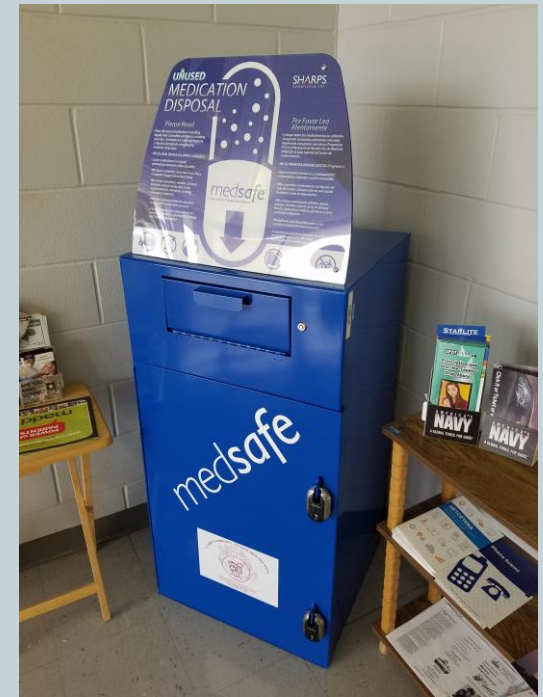
Illegal Dumping Enforcement

Use of Partnerships to Stretch Dollars

Pharmaceutical Collection

Electronics Recycling

Household Hazardous Waste Collection



Pharmaceutical collection drop box

COG Highlight

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

One of Keep Pearland Beautiful's primary goals for the Stella Roberts Recycling Center is to eliminate as many barriers as possible for residents to "do the right thing" and properly dispose of HHW and used electronics and participate in general recycling programs.

For more than 15 years, the Stella Roberts Recycling Center in Pearland, Texas, has offered recycling services to residents of the City and some surrounding areas. Today, the Center is becoming a regional Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and used electronics recycling facility, providing service and value to four counties in the greater Houston area.

Under the operation of Keep Pearland Beautiful (KPB), the Center regularly serves residents from more than 30 cities in Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, and Harris counties. The drive-through center makes recycling drop off easy for residents who do not have access to HHW disposal and used electronics recycling services in their communities.

The Center received funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Regional Solid Waste Grants Program administered by the Houston-Galveston Area Council to purchase items to update the HHW program. KPB used the \$27,639 to purchase rolling carts, a shipping container, an oxidizer cabinet, a drum truck, a bulb crusher, and other operational supplies to allow the Center to safely collect more HHW to meet the communities' needs.

Over the years, the Center has received more than \$736,000 from the Regional Solid Waste Grants Program for operational expenses and expansion. However, KPB is working with cities and counties that use the facility to establish reimbursement agreements and grants to help reduce some of the fees passed on to residents.



"We are turning a corner to becoming a true regional center," said Adrian Hernandez, KPB executive director. "We're able to show municipalities that we are providing a service for residents and a value to the communities, and the municipalities are supporting our program and helping sustain operations."

One of KPB's primary goals for the Stella Roberts Recycling Center is to eliminate as many barriers as possible for residents to "do the right thing" and properly dispose of HHW and used electronics and participate in general recycling programs. Residents outside of the areas with municipal partnerships are willing to drive up to 45 minutes from around the area and pay a small

fee to use the facility.

In Fiscal Years 2018/2019, more than 49,000 people participated in recycling drop off at the Center, including approximately 2,600 people who brought in their old and used electronics.

To further encourage use, KPB offers a loyalty program that recognizes residents who use the center properly sort their recycling for drop off. This year, I ramped up their program by offering daily entries gift card drawing leading up to Pearland Recycles I KPB hopes to expand the loyalty program in the future to include additional prizes and recognition.

GRANT RECIPIENTS

















- Austin County
- City of Pearland
- City of Bay City
- City of Sugar Land
- City of Conroe
- City of West University Place
- City of El Campo
- Colorado County
- City of Houston
- Harris County Environmental Enforcement Division
- City of Houston Police Dept
- Harris County Constable Pct 3
- City of League City
- Houston-Galveston Area Council
- City of Palacios
- Walker County
- City of Pasadena

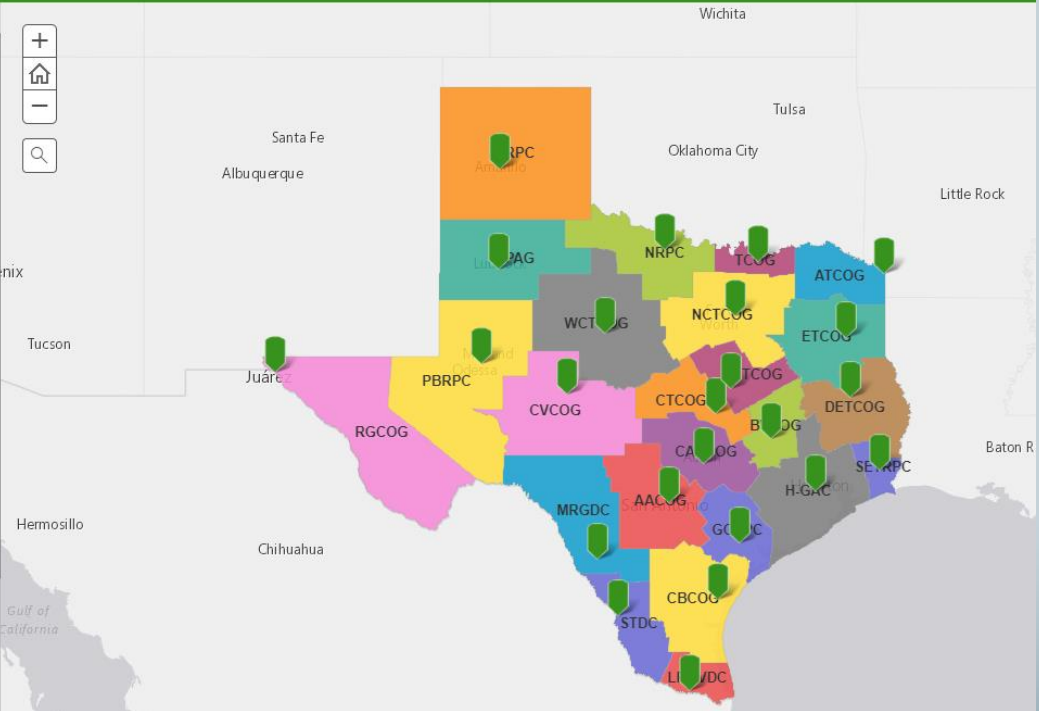
GRANT CATEGORY	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	GRANT AWARD
Education and Training	2	\$112,565.22
General Solid Waste Management	3	\$57,190.63
Household Hazardous Waste Management	6	\$251,354.03
Local Enforcement	6	\$286,016.35
Recycling	7	\$639,194.67
TOTAL	24	\$1,346,320.90

NEW! Online Report

Regional Councils of Governments' Highlights

Each of the 24 Regional Councils of Governments in Texas provided highlights on the project or projects that best tell their story for the Regional Solid Waste Grants Program, Fiscal Years 2018/2019. To read the highlight story for your Regional Council of Governments, click on the thumbnail image. You can also click on the pin on the map. Zoom in to find your Regional Council of Government.

			
Alamo Area Council of Governments	Ark-Tex Council of Governments	Brazos Valley Council of Governments	Capital Area Council of Governments
			
Central Texas Council of Governments	Coastal Bend Council of Governments	Concho Valley Council of Governments	Deep East Texas Council of Governments
			
East Texas Council of Governments	Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission	Heart of Texas Council of Governments	Houston-Galveston Area Council
			
Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council	Middle Rio Grande Development Council	Nortex Regional Planning Commission	North Central Texas Council of Governments



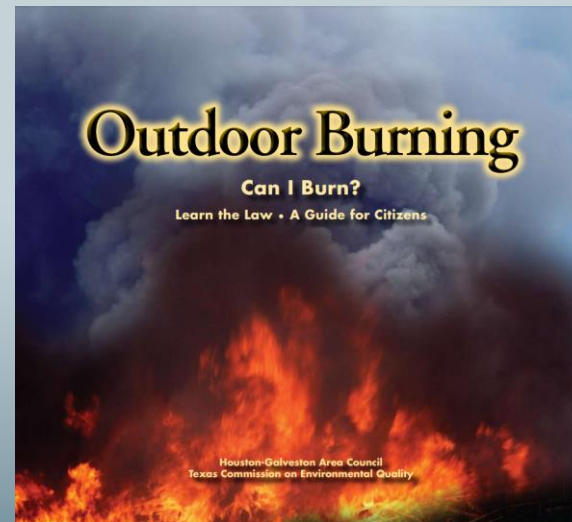
Current Solid Waste Grants

Current Status

- Due to COVID spending has been slow
- Two grantees are done!
- Others likely are, but they haven't submitted their final financial reports
- Working with the rest to spend their remaining money

Spending Ideas

- Newspaper ads
- Review of outdoor burning publication
- Enforcement training
- What else?



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Regional Solid Waste Management Plan

Current Status

- Working on Recommended Actions
- Working to fill out parts of the report form
- Planning to meet with the Subcommittee in three to four weeks

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Roundtable Discussion

Upcoming Events

Managing Difficult Aspects of Your Recycling Program

Thursday, May 20, 2021, 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Topics:

- Reducing contamination
- Starting a new drop off facility
- Keeping a program going
- Current market report

Disaster Debris Webinar

Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Topics

- Emerging trends in disaster recovery
- Public information strategies following a disaster
- Technology in disaster recovery
- Best practices in preparedness initiatives

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Thank you!

Erin Livingston
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