

**LORAIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
NEW GRANT FUNDING GUIDELINES FOR 2008-2012
and
VOLUME BASED SYSTEM PROGRAM SPECIFICATIONS**

The following are grant guidelines for 2008-2012. Beginning in 2008, a political subdivision that switches to a Volume Based System (VBS) program will not be required to provide match funding for their grant.

2008 Grants – 2009 Grants

1. For 2008 and 2009 the District solid waste grant funding remains the same as 2007 unless a political subdivision switches to VBS and the VBS program meets the District specifications. If a political subdivision implements a VBS program or pilot study, the grant funding is adjusted according to the attached spreadsheet.

2. Any political subdivision that meets either A or B below will be eligible to receive the VBS program incentive funding outlined below:

A. Provide the District with a contract with a hauler that shows the political subdivision is switching to a VBS system that meets the minimum VBS program requirements. In lieu of a contract, the political subdivision may provide the District with a council or township resolution that requires solid waste haulers to meet the District's VBS system minimum specifications for all single family households in the city, village or township; or

B. For political subdivisions with more than 900 single family households, provide the District with a contract, council or township resolution or a memorandum of understanding between the political subdivision and the hauler that the political subdivision will conduct a two year VBS system pilot study. The pilot study must meet the following:

(1) District VBS system specifications including recyclables accepted.

(2) Must cover a minimum of one route with 900 single family households.

(3) Multiple size carts must be offered with a price differential if the cart system is selected as the VBS system.

3. Communities receiving incentive funding must report quarterly recycling information to the District on appropriate District reporting software.

INCENTIVE FUNDING

1. The following is the payment levels for VBS program incentive funding:

- Political subdivisions with populations from 1 to 5,000 will receive \$10,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 5,001 - 10,000 will receive \$20,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 10,001 - 20,000 will receive \$30,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 20,001 to 25,000 will receive \$40,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 25,001 to 30,000 will receive \$75,000
- Political subdivisions with populations over 30,001 will receive \$150,000.

Note: For pilot studies only, incentive and grant funding shall not be used to pay for automated trash carts. Elyria and Oberlin are exempted from this prohibition on the use of incentive and grant funding for pilot studies.

2. If the City of Elyria or City of Lorain implements a second two-year VBS pilot study on one route with 900 single family residents or implement the VBS program city-wide, a second incentive payment of \$150,000 will be paid by the solid waste district. Elyria and Lorain must provide the District with a contract, council resolution or a memorandum of understanding stating that the political subdivision will conduct a second two year VBS system pilot study or will be implementing the program city-wide.

The District reserves the right to structure incentive payments to ensure adequate funding is available for the solid waste planning period. Political subdivisions must provide appropriate documentation that they are meeting 2. A or B listed under the 2008-2009 grant heading. Political subdivisions will receive incentive funding in the order the appropriate documents (contracts, resolutions, and/or memorandum of understanding) are submitted to the District.

Grant Funding

1. Beginning for the 2010 grant year, political subdivisions that do not implement a VBS system in the entire political subdivision or do not implement a two-year pilot study on one or more routes will receive the grant funding labeled in the **No VBS** column in the attached spreadsheet.

2. Beginning January 1, 2008, political subdivisions that implement a VBS program for the entire political subdivision or implement a two-year pilot study on

one route will receive grant funding identified in the **Yes VBS** column in the attached spreadsheet.

3. Any Lorain County political jurisdiction that has implemented a VBS program for the entire community or a pilot study for a minimum of two years, in accordance with the requirements of the District Plan and District guidelines, may decide to opt out of their VBS community grant program requirements. Political subdivisions that plan to opt-out must notify the District no later than September 1 or by the application deadline for the community grants whichever is later. Any community that opts-out will be able to apply for available community grant funding. The District will provide available grant funding at the 2007 community grant levels. Political subdivisions that opt-out must use grant funding to promote increased participation in recycling programs. The District will fund political jurisdictions that continue VBS Programs as the District's highest priority.

GRANT AND INCENTIVE FUNDING ALLOWABLE USES

1. Grant and incentive monies can be used to pay for refuse carts, bags, stickers and recycling containers.

2. The following are allowable costs for grant funds and incentive payments including, but are not limited [to \[BPI\]](#):

- Advertising to promote recycling and litter control programs (newspaper, television/cable, radio and billboards). The District encourages communities to spend 2% of the grant award on advertising.
- Blue Bags, residential recycling containers, VBS stickers
- Educational programs (seminars, conferences expenses require prior District approval).
- Printing of educational materials. The District encourages communities to use District brochures that can be personalized.
- Composting equipment (turners, chippers, screens).
- Automated Vehicle Equipment (Refuse or Recycling)
- Automated Carts
- Recycling equipment (compartmentalized vehicles, storage containers, materials sorting equipment).
- Recycled office supplies (paper, file folders, recycled printer cartridges, etc.) Communities can use up to 5% of their grant application for recycled office supplies.
- Recycling drop-off equipment including site facilities.
- Recycled products made from recycled materials including playgrounds and recycled products to be used in capital improvement projects.
- Books, VCR tapes related to solid waste and recycling.
- Purchase of used or reused electronic equipment (computers, printers, digital cameras, video cameras, DVD players and VCR's).
- School educational field trips directly related to recycling, composting.

- Solid Waste Collection Days (white goods, tires, used oil, etc.).
- Programs to assist senior citizens, physically challenged residents with yard waste management programs.
- Hauling or disposal costs for special projects.
- Recycling rebate or credit^[MG2] to all residential recycling customers in the community or as an incentive to identified recycling participants.
- Financing for incentive awards, gift certificates, signage or savings bonds.
- Staff assistance related to on-site staffing for drop-off recycling programs (including salary and benefits).
- Food/Refreshments (nonalcoholic beverages) limited to Pride Day & Earth Day Celebrations and Community Dumpster Days not to exceed \$500.00.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

1. Political subdivisions that enact a residential curbside yard waste collection program for all single family residences prior to December 2010 that meets District standards will receive the following one time incentive. Political subdivisions must provide the District with a contract, resolution or memorandum of understanding with the hauler that the residential curbside yard waste management collection program that all single family residential homes will be provided yard waste curbside services throughout the year.

- Political subdivisions with populations from 1 to 5,000 will receive \$5,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 5,001 - 10,000 will receive \$10,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 10,001 to 20,000 will receive \$20,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 20,001 to 25,000 will receive \$30,000
- Political subdivisions with populations from 25,001 to 30,000 will receive \$40,000
- Political subdivisions with populations over 30,001 will receive \$50,000.

Note: Any political subdivision with 50% of the households using backyard compost units shall qualify for the incentive funds.

2. Political subdivisions must provide yard waste management services for a minimum of two years.

3. Any Lorain County political jurisdiction that has implemented a Residential Curbside Yard Waste Collection Program for a minimum of two years, in accordance with the requirements of the District Plan and District guidelines, may decide to opt out after the program has been in operation for two years. If the political subdivision opts out prior to completing the two year commitment, the

District will be reimbursed the incentive payment. The reimbursement will be pro-rated based on the length of time the program has been in operation.

4. The District reserves the right to structure incentive payments to ensure adequate funding is available for the planning period.

VOLUME BASED SYSTEM PROGRAM SPECIFICATIONS

The Lorain County Solid Waste Management District (District) has created the following procedures for implementing a Volume Based System Program (VBS) for the political subdivisions in Lorain County. The benefits of VBS programs include:

- Fairness - each household pays based on its use of solid waste services.
- Increased Recycling - residents have incentive to recycle.
- Waste Reduction - consumers become more aware that they can purchase recyclable packaging, avoid excessive packaging and consider alternatives to disposable products.
- Composting – single family residents can reduce waste and recycle by practicing home composting and grass-cycling (leaving grass clippings on the lawn).

In order for a Lorain County political subdivision to obtain incentive funding from the District, the political subdivision must implement a VBS program that meets the requirements stated in this document. The District will not approve incentive funding for political subdivisions where the procedures and specifications listed below are not included in a contract with a third party solid waste contractor/hauler to ensure compliance and to obtain District funding. Political subdivisions operating their own hauling service must also meet these specifications.

Objectives of VBS Program

The main objective of the District's VBS Program is to create a curbside solid waste management system in the County that affords the generator (residents) the ability to choose their trash disposal and recycling practices. This system is viewed much like a utility (phone, electricity, cable) where usage is determined by the user and not the service provider.

Goal of VBS Program

The goal for the District is to create a fair system that offers significant economic incentives to residents to decrease trash generation through recycling.

In order to accomplish this goal, the District's VBS Program will require each political subdivision meet the following minimum specifications:

A. Charge for Service/Billing

All residents in single family households within the political subdivision's jurisdiction shall pay for their solid waste curbside services in one of two ways;

- Either directly to the service provider (political subdivision or third party hauler) on a monthly or quarterly basis for cart systems; or
- Through the purchase of bags, tags or stickers that would be made available throughout the community.

The political subdivision or third party hauler may only charge for trash services; ~~weekly curbside recycling services shall be included in the base container system rates unless those~~^[BP3] ~~services are segregated. When a different recycling resource is used, the resident is responsible for any applicable charges.~~ Programs funded through ~~property taxes and or~~ general fund money ~~is~~^{are} strictly prohibited.

Political subdivisions that have trash collection as a free service because they are a host community for a solid waste facility and have negotiated a host community agreement with the owner/operator of the facility are exempt from this requirement.

B. Container System

The political subdivision may choose between any of the common acceptable container systems that are used in VBS programs across the country; specifically:

- **Tag/Sticker System** – Residents purchase the amount of tags/stickers needed for their specific disposal requirements. The cost of each tag/sticker must include weekly trash service and free curbside recycling. Tags/stickers are to be available at both local retail establishments in the political subdivision as well as at all public offices and building of the political subdivisions. Tags/stickers must be designed to be specific to the political subdivisions including color coding and logos and must include security measures to prevent counterfeiting. Individual tags/stickers may be placed/affixed on any trash container system (bags or containers) up to 32 gallons in size. Only one tag/sticker can be used for each trash container per weekly service. Once the trash container is emptied, the tag or sticker must be removed by the trash hauler. New tags/stickers must then be purchased by the resident for the next week's trash collection.
- **Bag System** – Residents purchase the amount of bags needed for their specific disposal requirements. The cost of each bag must include weekly trash service and free curbside recycling. Bags must be available at both local retail establishments in the political subdivision as well as at all public offices and buildings of the political subdivision. Bags must be designed to be specific to the political subdivision including color coding and logos and include security measures to prevent counterfeiting. Bags can not exceed 32 gallons in size.

- **Cart System** - Residents subscribe to a specific size cart for their trash container. The cost of the cart must include weekly trash service and free curbside recycling. Only one cart at the base rate will be provided to each household and all trash must be contained within in order to be emptied by the trash hauler. Trash not containerized in the cart will not be collected by the trash hauler unless bagged and the residents pays a per bag price. A discount system must be offered to each household based on container size. Communities selecting the cart system must offer residents a choice of multiple container sizes and pricing. **(Note: Political Subdivisions considering a change to a cart collection system should contact the District for program guidance.)**

C. Recycling System

The curbside recycling specifications that are recognized as a part of the District's VBS Program shall meet the following criteria:

~~Weekly service~~ Minimum of bi-weekly (twice per month) curbside pickup

[MG4]

- No charge for recycling service, if the same hauler is used for trash collection; [BP5]
- Container system can be bags, bins or carts;
- The curbside recycling system must accept the following materials;
 - ✓ #1-#2 Plastic Food and Beverage Containers
 - ✓ Newspaper
 - ✓ Magazines
 - ✓ Cardboard
 - ✓ Junk Mail
 - ✓ Aluminum Beverage Containers
 - ✓ Bi-Metal Food and Beverage Containers

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER DURING CONTRACT NEGOTIATION

- The pricing discount for smaller carts must be at a cost savings. A resident would have a financial incentive to select a smaller container and recycle more material.
- Consideration of other recyclable materials like plastic 3,4,5,6,& 7.
- Consideration of paperboard materials like cereal boxes, and food box mixes.
- Amnesty Days (SuperBowl week, Christmas week, Thanksgiving week and other special events) where residents can put out more than their cart allotment.
- System for Bulk Items (Furniture and items that will not fit in bags or containers). There are many examples of bulk item pickups around Ohio in cities operating carts. Examples include resident contacts waste hauler

and schedules a specific appointment. Or a specific bulk item collection day is reserved monthly.

An additional goal of the VBS program is for each political subdivision in Lorain County to offer curbside yard waste management collection for single family residents. The program outlined below is optional, but strongly encouraged.

D. — Yard Waste Management System

~~Each political subdivision in Lorain County is strongly encouraged to offer a curbside yard waste management collection program for single family residents.~~

Programs must be in place by December 2010 in order to receive the incentive payments. Yard waste materials include, at a minimum, leaves, grass, and wood materials from bushes and trees. The materials must be appropriately managed as required by Ohio law and/or transported to a registered or licensed compost facility. The yard waste management program must offer curbside yard waste management services at a minimum of one collection once each month (April – December), in order to be eligible for the yard waste management incentives. Communities must also track the amount of yard waste collected and provide quarterly reports to the District on appropriate District reporting software.

Political subdivisions that manage yard waste materials on their own property or on private property including leaf piles must have completed at a minimum a registration with Ohio EPA to operate the compost facility.