

SCIRPDC Regional Solid Waste Needs Assessment

Published on December 29th, 2023



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Introduction

The purpose of this needs assessment is to review the solid waste opportunities provided to residents in the SCIRPDC region (Clay, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, and Marion Counties). All information contained in this report is believed to be accurate as of time of reporting. All service providers have been contacted multiple times over the course of the project; some responding, others not. This needs assessment is a culmination of input from providers, counties, and municipalities within SCIRPDC's five-county region.

Clay County, IL



Overview of Providers and Services

Clay County does not have one uniform provider for their jurisdiction. Each municipality and township chooses how they facilitate solid waste removal. Republic Services covers Flora, Clay City Township, and Xenia. Louisville, Sailor Springs, Central City, parts of Larkinsburg, and Oskaloosa Township utilize DBS Disposal. Since residents in the more rural areas of the county choose and enter into individual contracts with providers, AAA Disposal also services this county.

Republic Services

In Flora, residents are provided with one 96-gallon bin by Republic Services and have garbage pickup once a week. All items approved by the IEPA can be picked up with the exception of bulk items. If residents have large items that need picked up, they can dispose of those at the annual city-wide cleanup. Those bulk pieces have to be manageable by two men and cannot be waste of the following types: yard, hazardous, medical, car bodies, and construction debris. If there is a

large item that needs removed before then, residents must call and make an appointment with Republic. There are no composting services provided, and the following items are restricted from typical garbage disposal:

1. Earth/waste from building construction operations
2. Hazardous waste
3. Solid waste resulting from industrial processes and manufacturing operations (e.g. food processing scraps, lumber, boiler house cinders, building materials resulting from services performed by a person of the household of a customer, demolition material)
4. Items containing fluorocarbons and freon gases must be professionally handled

DBS Disposal

The Village of Louisville has utilized the services of DBS Disposal for the residents within their jurisdiction. They currently provide citizens with either a 64-gallon plastic garbage can or a 94-gallon tote. Pickup occurs once a week, unless otherwise specified. This privately-owned company provides general waste collection as approved by IEPA. As of the writing of this assessment, DBS does not offer recycling to residents. They provide bulk pick up for free once a year during the community-wide clean out. For an additional fee, residents can have these items picked up during the year. DBS identifies bulk pick-up items as the following:

1. Appliances
2. House remodeling debris
3. Roofing refuse
4. Mattresses (King-\$10.00, Queen/Full-\$7.00, Twin-\$5.00)
5. Furniture (Reclining Chairs-\$5.00, Hide-a-Beds-\$10.00, Recliner Couches-\$7.00, End Tables-\$0.00)

Additionally, residents can rent a dumpster/can if their refuse does not fit within the provided bin. Items noted as restricted are much the same as the rest of the region: appliances, demolition items, roofing refuse, items from businesses that repair furniture or televisions, house remodeling debris, tires, lawn clippings, landscape waste, batteries, trees, grass, leaves, sewerage, dead animals, and hazardous materials.

AAA Disposal

AAA Disposal currently services some residents in Larksinsburg and Oskaloosa Townships. Within this region, this waste management company provides commercial organic/food waste removal, industrial and manufacturing refuse collection, and trash collection. To residents, they provide dumpster rentals and garbage pickup. These services are provided on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly basis. They accept glass in small quantities and no form of composting. This privately-owned company disposes the aforementioned waste at both the Perry Ridge Landfill in Du Quoin, IL and the Effingham County Transfer Station in Mason, IL.

Other Providers

Due to its rural nature, most residents outside of Louisville and Flora have individual contracts with a solid waste disposal company of their choosing. Many do business with one of the three aforementioned businesses, but it is possible that some are serviced by one not mentioned here.

Benefits

As long as residents outside of Flora and Louisville understand that they are responsible for their own contracting with a company, it seems that the individuals who live in the county have most of their waste disposal needs met. Between the weekly garbage pickup and annual city-wide cleanups, people residing in Clay County are given plenty of opportunity to dispose of their non-recyclable materials. In such a rural region, it seems that there are adequate businesses willing to work with the municipalities and residents to ensure they are not underserved in regards to typical trash removal.

Suggestions to Improve

There are a few different suggestions to be made to the county which, if followed, could help ensure residents are well served in all areas of waste removal, not just garbage collection.

Recommendation #1: Provide Recycling Opportunities

Currently, providers for Clay County offer no recycling services for residents. This need is going unmet for so many who want to use this environmentally-friendly method of refuse disposal. If they do wish to partake in this process, citizens have to take it upon themselves to do so. Many other servicers provide recycling in other regional counties, so the resources are available. In order to ensure that residents do not miss out on another form of waste removal, it is suggested that providers begin offering this service.

Recommendation #2: Implement a System similar to Jasper County's

Given the rural size of Clay County and the current solid waste disposal structure in place, it is suggested that a system similar to Jasper County's be implemented. With the exception of those living in Flora and Louisville, residents are expected to contract with a waste management servicer on their own. This opens up the possibility for populations to be underserved. Those moving into the region who have not previously lived within county limits might not be aware that this is something they have to do or even know who is available to conduct trash pickup where their property is located. With this in mind, it might be helpful to have a county department take over this service. This could also provide an avenue for recycling in the region.

Recommendation #3: Provide Regular Informational Pamphlets to Residents

In looking at the current system, it is suggested that the county provide informational pamphlets to residents on an annual basis. While those moving to Flora, Louisville, Xenia, and Central City are signed up for services and made aware of their provider when they go to village hall to turn on their utilities, others in the region might not receive this information dependent upon where they are located. It is suggested that, on an annual basis, the county send out mailers that identify the providers for each municipality or state who residents can use if it is left up to them to contract out with a servicer.

Feasible Course of Action

With a population of 13,143, Clay County is only slightly ahead of Jasper at 9,193. With a similar size in square footage and rural makeup of each jurisdiction, it is suggested that Clay County create a program much like the one in Jasper, where the highway department is responsible for solid waste removal. Since each community or resident is responsible for setting up their own contract with a provider, there is a strong chance of individuals being underserved. This would primarily be more useful for the smaller regions in the area. The larger communities could choose to continue using their own provider; this would just serve as an additional waste removal option, as well as incorporate more recycling opportunities for the county.

Implementing this type of system could take a few years to get up and running, so, in the meantime, it is suggested that Clay County begin working on Recommendation #3. Providing proper information on a regular basis to their residents ensures everyone is properly serviced. This will also provide an opportunity for them to take inventory of how effective the current system is.

Effingham County, IL



Overview of Providers and Services

Residents in Effingham County are served by either Sanitation Services, LRS (formerly known as Doty Sanitation), or DBS, based on where they live.

Sanitation Services

Sanitation Services currently offers a variety of different solid waste removal options to commercial, residential, and industrial clients. They are considered to be a full-service sustainable waste management provider. Sanitation Services has been in the hauling business for 60 years and has worked with landfills for 44 years. Sanitation Services has been permitted capacity for an additional 45 years. Their landfill that is currently used covers a 50-to-60-mile

radius. Recently, as of eight years ago, they began working with transfer stations, and they report that the one used in Effingham County covers a 35-mile radius.

Sanitation Services provides commercial services to the Effingham County region, which includes rear-load containers, roll-offs, and self-contained/stationary compactors. They accept baled cardboard from their commercial clients and typically recycle over one and a half million pounds per year. They also service the industrial and manufacturing businesses in the region.

For residents, they provide tote service (96- or 48-gallon), as well as regular bags and cans for garbage removal. On a per-call basis, Sanitation Services does offer yard waste collection and bulk pickup for clients in Effingham County. They also provide dumpster rental (96- and 48-gallon totes, as well as one and a half- to eight-yard containers) and recycling services by way of drop off bins for cardboard and #1 and #2 plastics.

There are few services not offered by this sanitation company to clients. These include commercial organic/food waste disposal, shredding, portable toilets, intermodal containers, and composting, as there are no sites in the area able to facilitate that. There are no restrictions on glass recycling; however, they only accept #1 and #2 plastics.

Sanitation Services utilizes Landfill 33 in Effingham for the disposal of garbage picked up in the region. Once it has reached capacity, Crossroads will be the preferred dump site that they use. Both of these locations, as well as the transfer station, are all registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and are regulated by the IEPA. These areas cover a 25-mile radius for residents and a 50-mile area for roll-offs.

LRS

LRS currently provides garbage pickup once a week and 96-gallon containers to residents in their company. Per their contract, individuals can receive up to one additional container for an extra fee, and only items in the bin will be collected. They do provide bulk pickup during the annual spring cleanup week. The typical large items are permitted with the exception of items identified as unacceptable by the IEPA.

DBS Disposal

Altamont currently utilizes DBS Disposal for their trash pickup services. Much like other providers listed here, the contract between the City and the waste management company only includes garbage collection and yard waste pickup, assuming it is properly bundled and packaged. Residents can get their waste picked up once a week.

Benefits

The waste management companies serving Effingham County offer almost full spectrum refuse collection for the region, including roll-off rentals, which is an increasing need in this area. A few recommendations could be made, however, to further serve the residents and businesses of Effingham County.

Suggestions to Improve

Recommendation #1: Provide Composting Resources in the Area

Sanitation Services noted in their interview that one of the few programs they do not offer is composting, as there are no facilities in the area equipped for that. The closest providers for compost recycling are located in the metro east and St. Louis, MO area. It might be helpful if a local non-profit or one of the waste management businesses serving Effingham County could enter into an agreement with one of these facilities so this type of program could be offered to residents and businesses, especially restaurants, in SCIRPDC's region.

Recommendation #2: Provide Additional Recycling Services

While Sanitation Services provides a wide range of waste disposal programs, including recycling, this is not something offered to other residents and businesses within the county. It is suggested that LRS and DBS begin providing recycling for those they service in and around the Effingham region. If creating a program for this from scratch is too expensive, then a cooperative agreement with an established business that provides this service could be instituted as well.

Recommendation #3: Provide Additional Cleanup Days

Some communities in SCIRPDC's five-county region provide two cleanup days/weeks per year. It is suggested that Effingham County municipalities follow suit. This would help cut down on dumping and improve the overall aesthetics of the area. If residents are given more than one day/week per year to remove their larger items that are otherwise more difficult to get rid of, it could help deter blight and littering.

Feasible Course of Action

The most feasible suggestion would be to provide additional city or county-wide cleanup days. By adding just one more per year, this could help enhance the area, reduce the number of items dumped, and encourage residents and businesses to maintain their properties regularly. This also would help ensure that all individuals in the area are adequately served.

Fayette County, IL



Overview of Providers and Services

Each community in Fayette County is responsible for setting up waste disposal services for their jurisdiction. St. Peter is contracted with DBS, Vandalia utilizes LRS, Farina and parts of Patoka utilize D&B Disposal, while the other portions use C&L and Republic. Information can be found below on the business practices or community contracts that provided insight.

LRS

LRS currently conducts garbage pickup once a week to residents in their company-provided 96-gallon containers. Per their contract, individuals can receive up to one additional container for an extra fee and only items in the bin will be collected. They do, however, provide bulk pickup during the annual spring cleanup week. The typical large items are permitted with the exception of items identified as unacceptable by the IEPA.

DBS Disposal

St. Peter currently utilizes DBS Disposal for their trash pickup services. Much like other providers listed here, the contract between the villages and waste management company only includes garbage collection and yard waste pickup, assuming it is properly bundled and packaged. Residents can get their waste picked up once a week.

Other Providers

Residents with a Patoka address have three options of providers dependent upon where they live. If in the city limits, Republic services these homes. Since those living in the country, but still in village limits, don't receive their water or gas from the municipality, they can opt to contract out individually with either D&B Disposal or C&L. All residents get the basic waste removal similar to most communities.

Benefits

At the current moment, it appears that there is no shortage of waste management providers available to service Fayette County. All residents and businesses within city limits seem to have their typical waste removal covered.

Suggestions to Improve

The solid waste providers in this region do provide trash pickup once a week for residents, however, there are a few ways the systems could be improved to enhance services currently available for residents and businesses.

Recommendation #1: Ensure Plenty of Information is Provided to Rural Residents

While those living in city limits are made aware of their waste management provider when they sign up for utilities, those living in the country may be going unnoticed. Many of these residents get their water and gas from sources outside of the municipality. Due to this, they never have to go to village hall to register for services. For those smaller municipalities that have a more rural population base, it is suggested that mailers be sent out to residents advising them of their options for solid waste providers.

Recommendation #2: Provide More Recycling Services

Residents can take their electronics recycling to the Fayette County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) where, for a small fee, they can drop off one load a week. However, recycling for cardboard, glass, plastic, etc. is not covered by this program. It is, therefore, suggested that either the solid waste providers or the SWCD, in partnership with a local recycling business, begin accepting these items. Without this alternative for solid waste removal, residents are going underserved.

Recommendation #3: Provide More Services for Roll-offs/Dumpster Rentals

Currently, the solid waste providers servicing Fayette County do not offer dumpster rentals to residents. It is stated in the contracts that the cities can rent roll offs when needed, but residents have to request bulk pickup and the amount/weight of items is limited. This can either become a service provided by the solid waste contractors or the county could prepare a list of roll off businesses in the area for display in the city and village halls. This would ensure that residents had plenty of access to dumpster rentals for construction or renovation projects.

Feasible Course of Action

The suggestions offered here for Fayette County are a combination of recommendations #1 & #3. Especially for the more rural municipalities, it is imperative that they make sure their country residents are aware of their solid waste options. An annual mailer can be sent out to those individuals identifying the servicers in the region available to them. Additionally, providing more roll offs and dumpster rentals is an ever-increasing need in the region. If solid waste providers can begin offering this service like others in the area already do, it could prove to be a very efficient and helpful program for residents and businesses.

Jasper County, IL



Overview of Providers and Services

Jasper County is an outlier in terms of solid waste services in our region. The county highway department handles most trash and recycling removal for their jurisdiction. In addition, Newton also has a contract with Republic Services.

Jasper County Highway Department

In 1995, a Four County (Jasper, Effingham, Fayette, and Marion) Regional Waste Management Plan was conducted. As a result of this study, Jasper County, as a government entity, began fulfilling this need for their residents. Rather than providing residential pickup, the highway department sets out dumpsters at 12871 IL-33 in Newton, IL every Saturday. All individuals in their jurisdiction are welcome to drop their solid waste off at these dumpsters that will then be hauled away to a nearby landfill. They also run roll-offs to different townships on a set schedule. Dumpsters are available to rent for residents from April to December of each year.

Currently, no recycling for plastic and glass is being offered by the department due to compliance issues. Those running the program experienced issues with residents improperly sorting materials. The highway department found it to be too time consuming to pick through garbage and colored glass that had been put into the “clear only” bins. Employees also frequently encountered safety hazards with broken glass that had been placed in the recycling. After multiple warnings to residents about properly sorting their items, the highway department made the decision to remove that service from their offerings. They do still provide metal and electronic recycling and have faced no issues thus far with either. Metal recycling is offered each Saturday and there are two electronic recycling drives per year (March and August).

Aside from limitations on recycling, the highway department also has restrictions on items that can be disposed of. These are all banned from Illinois landfills:

1. Appliances where the freon has not been properly removed
2. Yard waste
3. Tires
4. Asbestos materials
5. Electronic items

Garbage placed in the dumpsters are taken to Landfill 33 in Effingham. Metal recycling is delivered to B&B Recyclers in Newton to be processed for reuse. Electronic recycling materials are moved to Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations in Onalaska, WI.

Republic Services

In the City of Newton, the seat of Jasper County, residents also have the option to utilize Republic Services. Those who choose to have their solid waste removed by this business are provided up to two 96-gallon bins to place their EPA-approved waste into. Items such as whole tires, automobiles (or parts), lead acid batteries, and large appliances will not be picked up on the weekly route. However, the City does offer a community-wide cleanup of items not allowed at landfills. So long as they are properly packaged and bundled, Republic will also accept yard waste (leaves, branches, grass clippings, etc.).

Benefits

Having the county take care of solid waste in the area ensures uniform services are being provided no matter where one lives. This eliminates the concern that some regions may be un- or underserved. For a county of this population size (9,193) and its rural composition, this seems to be the ideal solution for solid waste removal. Residents are missing out on few services that private industry provides and still have the opportunity for electronics recycling.

Suggestions to Improve

While the highway department and Republic Services does cover a wide range of services and takes care of the county's waste disposal needs pretty well, there are a few suggestions that could be made to improve the current system.

Recommendation #1: Ensure Adequate Information is Available

According to information provided by officials in the two biggest communities in Jasper County, residents can find out about their solid waste provider options in two ways. In Newton, when new residents move to town, they are advised that Republic Services covers their municipality. They are given a form with instructions on how to contact the business to ensure they are on the pick-up list if they choose to use that provider. At the same time, they are made aware of the program that the highway department has for Jasper County residents only and when they can drop off their trash at those dumpsters. In Willow Hill's village hall, there is a schedule posted of where the traveling roll-off will be and when. They also utilize social media to remind citizens when the dumpster will be in town.

While these are helpful for new residents, it is suggested that a pamphlet or some small document be provided to each individual who moves into the region and/or a small postcard be

sent periodically to all residents. Since Jasper County is an outlier when it comes to their solid waste providers, it might prove helpful to have physical literature on hand that explains residents' options and provides them with contact information should they have questions. It would also be advisable to have this posted to the website or social media page for each community where it can be easily searched and found.

Recommendation #2: Offer Additional Recycling Services

While the county highway department previously offered plastic and glass recycling bins, those services have been suspended due to residents not using them correctly. Republic currently does not offer any recycling services to Newton. Residents have to take it upon themselves to collect their recycling and drive it out to one of the businesses in the region specializing in that. As such, it is our suggestion that a more comprehensive recycling program be established. Other communities in the region have successful programs run by volunteers that Jasper County could model itself off of. This is not to undermine the current programs for metal and electronics; however, residents could stand to benefit from glass and plastics recycling becoming a recurring opportunity.

Recommendation #3: Provide Additional Garbage Disposal Days at the Highway Building

With the exception of the once-a-month trips out to the more rural areas of the county, residents are given one day a week to dispose of their trash at the highway building. While this is typically sufficient for most, it could be helpful to add an additional day for the dumpsters to be out. Residents supplied with a solid waste provider that comes to their house for trash pickup only have to set out their refuse. Those in Jasper County that do not use Republic have to make the drive to the highway building to dispose of their trash. It is reasonable to assume that some will be out of town or could forget about having to drive there and then have to wait another week before their garbage can get where it needs to be. If just one additional day is added to the weekly schedule, it would provide an opportunity for those who work weekends or travel frequently to ensure their refuse gets dropped off in a timely manner.

Feasible Course of Action

Our suggested improvements for Jasper County are a mix of recommendations #1 & #3. While it would be helpful to residents to be offered regular glass and plastic recycling, the cost, time, and resources it would take to put a project like this together might outweigh the number of participating residents.

Given that Jasper County handles their waste management differently than others in the region, it is imperative that adequate information is supplied to all municipal offices. When new residents move into the area, most will assume that they will automatically be signed up for the trash collection that the City uses when they get their utilities turned on. To ensure that newcomers are made aware that they will have to drop off their refuse at the county highway department (unless they live in Newton), the county should create small pamphlets to be given out to new residents that informs them of their waste removal options.

While the highway department provides one drop-off day a week as well as traveling hours once a month, chances are high for residents to miss or forget the assigned day. In most

communities, the trash collector comes to the house to collect the refuse. In Jasper County, unless signed up for Republic Services in Newton, the resident has to take it upon themselves to deliver their garbage. It is advised that the county add one additional day for the dumpsters to be open for public use. Many individuals work weekends or go out of town. If they miss the weekly drop and the once-a-month traveling dumpster, the individual has to hold onto their refuse for another seven days. If the highway department can add one additional day, preferably during the week, residents will be better served.

Marion County, IL



Overview of Providers and Services

Communities in Marion County are each responsible for their own contracting of solid waste disposal. Centralia uses Republic, and Salem and Iuka work with DBS. It is important to note that Salem's contract ends on December 31st, 2023 at which point they will be served by Sunrise Sanitation. Many other communities in the county use solid waste providers mentioned throughout this assessment.

Republic Services

Centralia residents receive garbage pickup services once a week through their waste management provider. Republic also offers yard waste removal as long as it is packaged properly and Christmas tree pickup (one week out of the year). No recycling is currently offered to residents through the City's contract with this servicer. They do, however, have bulk pick up if an appointment is scheduled and it meets the following criteria:

1. Furniture
2. Mattress sets
3. No white goods

4. No items containing freon
5. No electronics
6. Items not to exceed 150 pounds total per pickup
7. No one item may exceed 75 pounds

The contract does include two clean-up weeks a year during the spring and fall. During this, thirty-yard roll-off containers are provided for a five-day period. Should the City choose to do so, they have the option of renting up to five more containers throughout the year for an additional fee. At the current moment, the only restrictions on disposal that Republic institutes on the public are large commercial and industrial refuse, construction debris, large dead animals, institutional solid waste, hazardous waste, offal waste, stable matter, vegetable waste, and special waste.

DBS Disposal

Residents in Salem are currently served by DBS Disposal until the end of year 2023. During the weekly pickup route, individuals can set out up to the equivalent of 99 gallons worth of refuse. DBS does allow for yard waste removal as long as it is properly contained in leaf bags purchased by the residents. Bulk pickup is provided with the same restrictions in place as in other counties and as prohibited by the IEPA. The items not to be picked up are listed below:

1. Insulation
2. Paint
3. Chemical cans
4. Asbestos products
5. Electronics (TV, VCR, stereo equipment, etc.)
6. Construction/remodel debris (shingles, toilets, sinks, lumber, carpet)
7. Car parts (tires, batteries, auto body parts)
8. Refuse sourced from outside City limits

There is also a city-wide cleanup held once a year where individuals can place large items (so long as they meet the outlined requirements) at the curb, and DBS will come to remove them. The following items can be disposed of with the waste removal company:

1. White goods (stove, hot water heater, air conditioner, etc.)
2. Couches
3. Bedding
4. Other furniture (end tables, tv stands)

The Village of Iuka is also contracted with DBS to provide services to their residents with once-a-week pickup of solid waste. Those living within the City limits receive this service when they sign up for utilities. Those living in the country with an Iuka address are given the option to have DBS drive out to pick up their refuse, otherwise those individuals determine what to do with refuse on their own.

Recycling

Since there is a lack of recycling services offered by the solid waste providers in the region, volunteers have taken it upon themselves in the county to ensure this is something that is offered. The two main non-profits in the area with this focus are the Keep Centralia Beautiful (partnered with the Centralia Recycling Center) and Keep Salem Beautiful coalitions. Both

organizations hold public outreach events to get citizens more involved in the recycling process. City-wide “Great America Clean Up” days are held each year where certain locations are chosen and volunteers come out to pick up trash. Keep Salem Beautiful also partners with the local high school to hold an electronics recycling drive each year and have paper recycling bins placed around the hallways of Hawthorn Elementary, Franklin Park Middle, and Salem Community High School. The Centralia Recycling Center provides a facility where residents can drop off eligible items including certain types of plastic, clear and colored glass bottles, aluminum, cardboard and chipboard, magazines and books, metal cans, white paper, electronics, mixed paper, and newspaper. They currently provide a recycling bin to the City of Salem residents as well.

Benefits

As it stands, most of Marion County’s residents are well-served when it comes to general trash pickup and bulk item removal. Those living within city limits can typically rely on their refuse being taken each week as long as it is an item acceptable by the IEPA and is packaged properly.

Suggestions to Improve

While most of the garbage removal needs are being met within the county, the following suggestions are intended to improve the process.

Recommendation #1: Enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the Local Recycling Nonprofits

Residents in Marion County have the option to utilize different recycling opportunities through volunteer-led non-profits. However, there are many in the region who find the drive to these facilities too far to make and there are others who are homebound. In order to ensure all residents are adequately served, it is suggested that the waste disposal companies enter into a cooperative agreement with the Centralia Recycling Center. This would ensure recycling pickups happen on a weekly basis for those who would like to participate, an increased use of recycling in the local region, and would provide more opportunities for the non-profits to continue their efforts.

Recommendation #2: Add an Additional Clean-up Day/Week

Some communities in SCIRPDC’s five-county region provide two clean-up days/weeks per year. It is suggested that all Marion County municipalities follow suit. This would help cut down on dumping and improve the overall aesthetics of the area. If residents are given more than one day/week per year to remove their larger items that are otherwise more difficult to get rid of, this could lead to more environmentally-friendly communities.

Recommendation #3: Provide More Services for Roll-offs/Dumpster Rentals

Currently, the solid waste providers servicing Marion County do not offer dumpster rentals to residents. It is stated in the contracts that the cities can rent roll-offs when needed, but residents have to request bulk pickup, and the amount/weight of items is limited. This can either become a service provided by the solid waste contractors, or the county could prepare a

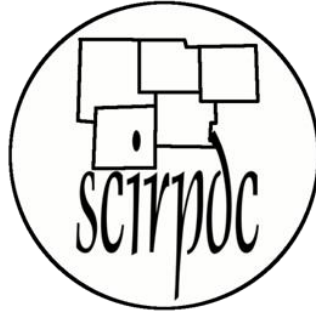
list of roll-off businesses in the area for display in the city and village halls. This would ensure that residents had plenty of access to dumpster rentals for construction or renovation projects.

Feasible Course of Action

The suggestion being put forth for consideration in Marion County is recommendation #2. By adding an additional city/county-wide clean up day or week, this would provide residents more opportunity to remove bulk items in a more organized manner. Rather than dumping items that are too big for an individual bulk pickup, citizens could leave it out by the curb during the extra allotted time to properly dispose of the refuse. Additionally, if residents happen to forget about one clean-up week, they would still have another opportunity to participate.

Conclusion

After conducting interviews with solid waste providers and local municipalities, some common themes began to appear. Most of the SCIRPDC region is underserved when it comes to more environmentally-friendly methods of refuse removal, such as recycling and composting. While some counties do have facilities or privately-owned businesses that offer this to residents, it could be more helpful if the solid waste provider picked these items up on the same day as garbage collection. If offered, counties could see an uptick in residents participating in recycling programs. One aspect in which providers in our area are excelling is in bulk waste pickup. Almost every individual we spoke to said that it was offered in their municipality. Ensuring that this is available to residents is important in improving the aesthetic conditions of our region, as well as providing a proper way of large-item disposal.



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Special Thanks to the following Solid Waste Providers and Communities for their input:

AAA Disposal
City of Altamont
City of Centralia
Village of Farina
City of Flora

Village of Iuka
Jasper Co. Highway Dept.
Village of Louisville
City of Newton
Village of Patoka
Village of Sailor Springs

City of Salem
Sanitation Services
Village of St. Peter
City of Vandalia
Village of Willow Hill

*Any potential omissions of acknowledgement to communities or providers are unintentional.
SCIRPDC thanks all who provided information for this needs assessment. *