

Tioga County - Department of Solid Waste

2020 Annual Report

Recycling, Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Management

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I. Tioga County Solid Waste Department Summary

A. Recycling

The recycling tonnages were 3,475.3 and 3,565.2 for 2020 and 2019, respectively. The recycling tonnage, type and revenues are reported in Table A1. Recycling collected from the County Office Buildings is presented in Table A.2.

Tioga County has provided residents with countywide curbside recycling collection since 1992. In June of 2020, Tioga County went out to bid for this service and the lowest bid came in at more than double the current rate. Due to this rate more than doubling the current rates, the county could not increase taxes without exceeding the NYS mandated 2% tax increase rate cap. Therefore the Tioga County Legislature decided to let private enterprise provide curbside recycling and removing the recycling tax levy on the County tax bill.

Tioga County Solid Waste modified the 1992 Source Separation Local Law to reflect these changes while ensuring the County is abiding by the New York State Source Separation mandate.

B. Hazardous Waste

The Tioga County Household Hazardous Waste Program went off without a hitch for the nineteenth year in a row. This program has provided a safe method for the County residents and agricultural generators to dispose of 609,533 lbs. or 305 tons of hazardous waste and electronics over the past nineteen years at an average cost of \$0.77 per pound. The electronic recycling portion of this program has recycled a total of 220,645 lbs. (110.3 tons) since its inception in 2003. Detailed information and tonnages are presented in Table B.1.

C. Electronic Waste (E-Waste)

In January of 2017, Department of Solid Waste and Taylor Garbage entered into a public-private partnership where Tioga County residents can drop off their electronic waste to

Taylor Garbage's transfer station located at 352 Glen Mary Drive, Owego, NY. Unfortunately in April 2020, Taylor Garbage decided to end this partnership. Fortunately the Department of Solid Waste has an electronic waste recycling outlet for residents through their Household Hazardous Waste program.

E. Revenues

Recycling markets have experienced a sharp decline due to changing trends, particularly overseas over the past 3 years. Department of Solid Waste has not received any recycling revenues since 2018 due to these markets. The drop in commodity prices (markets) for recycling is the primary reason the bids for curbside recycling more than doubled. Tioga County Solid Waste applied for New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) grants totaling over \$44,128.06 in revenue.

F. Future for Department of Solid Waste

Continue strengthening our relationship with the local municipalities and businesses focusing on beautification of the County through Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Compost. The Department of Solid Waste will be looking for new partnerships for electronic waste drop off for residents in Tioga County and working with municipalities to hold electronic waste collection events in 2021.

Tioga County Solid Waste will be applying for New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) grants (Recycling Coordinator, Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste) which will bring in over \$40,000 in revenue.

Table A.1: 2020 Curbside Recycling Program Summary

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
JAN	306.1	305.0	355.0	347.2	324.6
FEB	275.1	262.0	295.6	286.9	302.9
MAR	295.5	274.3	316.8	316.9	331.1
APR	326.1	294.1	325.4	325.4	312.8
MAY	317.7	304.9	334.4	350.2	336.7
JUN	347.7	295.9	317.8	362.8	340.5
JUL	322.1	332.9	326.4	341.3	308.9
AUG	267.9	299.1	334.6	351.1	366.3
SEP	254.5	291.3	304.0	311.3	318.2
OCT	243.1	307.9	328.7	338.6	335.1
NOV	252.5	276.7	324.1	351.9	351.9
DEC	267.2	321.0	335.2	329.0	370.9
TOTAL	3,475.3	3,565.2	3,897.9	4,012.6	3,999.8
SUBTOTAL	3,475.3	3,565.2	3,897.9	4,012.6	3,999.8

Table A.2: Additional Recycling Tonnage

County Office Building Recycling 7.5 Tons

Table B.1: Hazardous Waste for 2020

	HOUSEHOLD WASTE (lbs)		PARTICIPATION		PRICE/LB*	PAID TO BC
	ELECTRONICS	HAZARDOUS	RATE‡			
APR	0	467	0 (E), 3 (H)		\$ 0.75	\$ 350.25
MAY	**	**	**		**	**
JUNE	2791	4147.6	24 (E), 39 (H)		\$ 0.65	\$ 4,487.55
JULY	5275	3256	34 (E), 33 (H)		\$ 0.55	\$ 4,688.25
AUG	4462	6756	45 (E), 48 (H)		\$ 0.63	\$ 7,028.70
SEPT	4237	3100	39 (E), 36 (H)		\$ 0.57	\$ 4,207.95
OCT	4566	3556	40 (E), 38 (H)		\$ 0.57	\$ 4,665.24
NOV	6098	2902	36 (E), 21 (H)		\$ 0.53	\$ 4,750.55
TOTAL	27429	24185	474		\$ 0.61	\$ 30,178.49

‡ E = Electronics; H = Hazardous

** Program was temporarily suspended due to COVID19