

GEAUGA-TRUMBULL SWMD Public Notice

Public Comment Period for Draft Solid Waste Management Plan Update

The Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District (District) is establishing a 30-day written comment period from February 3rd, 2025, until March 5th, 2025, on the draft Solid Waste Management Plan Update (Plan Update) (Ohio Revised Code Section 3734.54). The District has prepared the draft Plan Update as required by Section 3734.54 of the Ohio Revised Code. The draft Plan Update includes a budget and fees to finance the Plan, a solid waste facility inventory, projections and strategies, facilities and programs to be used, an analysis of the progress made toward achieving state solid waste reduction goals, and District rules.

This 2026 Plan Update is an update to the previously approved solid waste plan. The 2026 Plan Update includes a demonstration of access to landfill capacity and determines whether there are more than fifteen years of landfill capacity available to the District. Based on the landfills used to manage waste generated in the District during the 2022 reference year for the planning period, landfills had an average life expectancy of 43 years.

The District does not have a landfill within its boundaries. However, two transfer stations are within its boundaries and were used in 2022, both in Trumbull County. The District has contractual agreements to designate specific facilities to receive Geauga-Trumbull's waste. The District is reliant on transfer stations in and around its two counties to transfer waste to landfills for final disposal. Due to the economics of waste hauling, the closest facilities are where a majority of Geauga-Trumbull County's waste ends up. These are Carbon Limestone Landfill in Mahoning County and Ohio Valley Waste's Transfer Station in Trumbull County.

The draft Plan update includes District rules contained in Appendix Q. The District currently has 12 rules and is not proposing any new rules in this plan update.

The draft Plan Update complies with State Plan Goal #2: A 25% diversion of all residential/commercial waste generated. The District expects to continue to reach this goal throughout the planning period.

The District currently funds plan programs and current operations through a designation fee of \$5.50. As part of the designation contracts, solid waste facilities accepting District waste remit a \$5.50 per ton contract fee to the District. To support new programming and the rising costs of existing programs, the Policy Committee is planning to increase the contract fee by \$2.00 per ton in 2027. The District has maintained a constant designation fee since 2007. The contract fee is collected at the first point of disposal by the designated facilities, including landfills, transfer stations, incinerators, and material recovery facilities, and remitted back to the District. Importantly, this fee increase is NOT a tax levied on residents of the District.

The District will accept written comments as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 3734.55 on the draft Plan Update from February 3rd, 2025, until March 5th, 2025. Written comments should be sent to Jennifer Jones, Director Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District, 5138 Enterprise Dr., Warren, OH 44481 or via email to jenn@startrecycling.com

The District will hold a public hearing to obtain oral comments regarding the draft Plan Update on Wednesday, March 12th at 3pm at the Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste District offices at the address listed above.

The draft Plan Update is available for review on the District's website at: <https://startrecycling.com/>

Please contact the District at (330) 675-7967 with any questions about the Plan Update.