**Recycle Center Report to the Community, Year 2022**

**Brown County Solid Waste Management District**

The Recycle Center had another good year in terms of volume and grants. Commodity prices remained strong throughout most of the year putting us in a strong cash position in December. However prices on cardboard, paper products, #2 plastics and metals took a tumble toward the end. The commodity price history for 2022 is as follows:

Cardboard from$170/ton to $40/ton

Newspaper/Magazines from $50/ton to $35/ton

#2 Clear Plastic from $600/ton to $300/ton

#2 HDPE from $150/ton to $80/ton

Steel Cans from $180/ton to $120/ton

Scrap Metal from $210/ton to $100/ton

Cardboard pricing is the most critical as it comprise 50% of total intake. Prices are expected to climb again into 2023.

Percentage intake breakdown by weight is as follows:

Cardboard 49.9%

Metal Cans/Scrap 10.0

Paper Products 8.0%

Plastics 7.6%

Glass 28.2%

Misc 1.3%

The Recycle Center took in 1,165 Freon appliances in 2022. This is comprised of freezers, water coolers, dehumidifiers and refrigerators.

Gross material intake for 2022 was 763.41 tons which represents a 7.4% increase over 2021. We still maintain five satellite recycling location around the county plus the main facility at 176 Old State Road 46. Once change that was made is eliminating the Knights location and adding one at Deer Run closer to Nashville.

Downstream material flow is very legitimate. Here are what some major recycled products are made into and where they go. This has remained basically unchanged from 2021 when we reported it last.

Cardboard: new cardboard, partition board & paper grocery sacks

Major buyer: Eaton Paper Mills – Eaton,IN

Glass: fiberglass, commercial carpeting & other glass products

Mohawk Industries – Edon, NC

Plastics: plastic pellets for general manufacturing, carpet padding & new plastics.

Mohawk Industries – Edon, NC – commercial carpeting & numerous plastics manufactures such as Nypro Kanaack in AL

Paper Products: other paper products such as office paper, toilet paper, paper towels & facial tissue. - Kimberly Clark – Owensboro, KY

The vendors who take our recycle material are as follows:

WestRock Indianapolis: cardboard, plastic, paper products

Bloomington Iron-Metal: steel/aluminum cans, scrap metal

Strategic Glass Indianapolis: clear/brown/green glass

Technology Recyclers Indianapolis: electronic products

Speedy Shred Seymour: document shredding

Republic Services Bloomington: trash program

T&T Tire Milan: tires

The Recycle Center is a 76.8% taxpayer funded operation with the major tax revenue coming from property taxes. The remaining 23.4% comes from sale of recycle materials, trash sales and donations.

In 2022 we resumed our Tire Collection Day taking tires of all sizes. Intake quantities for our Special Events are in the chart below:

Tires: 3,600 (primarily passenger car)

Electronics: 17,192 lbs. including 131 TV sets and computer monitors

Document Shredding: 6,000 lbs.

The Recycle Center was awarded a Grant from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management in the amount of $28,710. This will go toward the purchase of a new REM PRC 7.5 can separator-crusher. It is a 75/25 grant which means we are reimbursed 75% of the purchase price. The new machine is more powerful and faster than our existing one which is no longer manufactured and parts cannot be obtained any longer.

Our bagged trash program for 2022 was the most successful it’s ever been. Gross sales were $17,577 with a net profit of $12,216. We partner with Republic Services out of Bloomington for this.

Another Adopt-A-Road member was added in 2022. They are the Todd Barkes family which has adopted a mile of Bellsville Pike in southern Brown County.

The Recycle Center still maintains a strong business pick-up program in and around Nashville. Larger business customers include IGA, Brown County Inn, Speedway, Dunham Plumbing, Hard Truth, BP Gas Station, MacDonalds, Law Enforcement Center and several others. Our largest single recycler is the IGA grocery. It represents approximately 25% of our total annual intake.

In summary the Brown County Solid Waste Management District had another productive year. Visit **browncountyrecycles.org** for all up to date information regarding recycling. Our phone number is (812) 988-0140.