CON 12-17-11 DOC ID# 4094 00-6-550 -08

705

FORM A

SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

1999 JUN 18 P 1: 13

Project Title: Decatur County Recy	cling	NATUR I PESOURCE
Applicant Name: Decatur County		
Street Address: Courthouse, 207	N. Main	
City/State/Zip: Leon, Iowa 5014	4	
Mailing Address (if different):		
P.O. Box:		
City/State/Zip:		·
County: Decatur	·	
Contact Person: William F. Green	wood	
Telephone Number: 515.446.4323		
E-mail Address: N/A		
Applicant Type:		
[X] Local Government [] I	Private For Profit	Private Not For Profit
Primary Project Type:		
[X] Best Practices [] I	Education	[] Market Development
Amount of Funding Requested:	\$ 20,000	
Amount of Applicant Match Committed: \$ 24,390		
Total Project Cost:	\$ 44,390	
Facility Location: Throughout Count	y Project Area	
Project Service Area Description: Ten inc	corporated communities	and all unincorp. areas
Signature: Bill Ballanty	m	
Title: Chairperson, County Bos	ard of Supervisors	
Date: 04/07/99		

Form B

1. Project Description

The project is a *best-practices* project that attempts to collect the most recyclable solid waste possible within the entire project area. The project will be implemented over the next year and will be in position to continue in future years with local funding. The County will hire a half-time driver and will purchase bins, a truck, and a hydraulic lift. Once the purchases are complete and the bins are placed, the driver will take the truck throughout the county to empty bins on a scheduled basis. Throughout the implementation time, educational information will be distributed via radio, newspapers, and pamphlets. Recycling depositories for glass, tin, paper, cardboard, aluminum, #1 and #2 plastics, and newspaper will be available at each bin. The new bins will be provided in addition to the recycling receptacles currently found in Lamoni and Leon. This program models the mobile collection unit method currently used in Wayne County.

2. Project Need in terms of....

The project **service area** contains approximately 4,000 households, but only 2,000 households are served directly by recycling facilities that handle the targeted materials. Because rural areas and small communities are not served, those materials either are not recycled or are overloading the existing facilities, often with material not to be recycled. The facilities of Leon in particular have been overloaded with materials from other communities in the past few years. Citizens in other communities, such as Van Wert and Garden Grove, have expressed a need to be included in a project area.

The targeted population is the entire county. The county in 1996 had an estimated population of 8,177. Of that, 2,649 persons were from rural areas and 1,268 from small incorporated towns. There are no recycling collection services to nearly 4,000 persons (2,000 households). The population is too dispersed to have roadside collection, and there have been problems with unmonitored storage bins in Leon. More bins specifically for community collections are needed to ensure that services are available to the rural areas.

The county plans to collect the following **types** of recyclables: aluminum, clear glass, newspapers, magazines, cardboard, and #1 and #2 plastic. These recyclables are already collected in Leon and Lamoni using either bins or curbside collection mechanisms. These recyclables compose a large share of the household waste in the county. If the county can effectively reach all 4,000 households reasonably effectively, 200 tons of additional recyclable materials can be collected, according to calculations based on the Solid Waste Abatement Table for 1996. The problem with meeting the need to recycle these materials is effectively providing a means of collection to people who reside far from the larger towns of the county. In FY 1999, approximately 3,300 tons of solid waste will be generated in the county. Up to 400 tons of the targeted recyclables are targeted to be recycled as part of this program and current programs.

The current waste management method does not meet the needs of the project service area or population. Only Leon and Lamoni are adequately served. Also, there is not a good method of hauling of recyclables in the county, as is the case with the two largest communities, which have been collecting and hauling their own recyclables using their own programs, and, due to costs, not opening them to rural residents. The county needs a coordinated collection and hauling system that meets the needs of the larger communities and the households of the rural areas not currently served. The county needs a person to drive a vehicle around to bins that are located in various communities or to haul a bin from town to town on certain collection days. This method must be coordinated with the methods currently used in Leon and Lamoni, so that the diverted material from rural collections can be scheduled to be sent to the recycler along with the city collections. This method, when supported by education, will ensure that the Lamoni, Leon, and county programs do not cross service areas and do not reduce effectiveness and efficiency of all programs.

The comprehensive planning area's integrated solid waste management program is outlined in the Subsequent Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan. The solid waste efforts in Decatur County are not integrated in order to ensure proper waste management countywide. The only integrated portion of the county's recycling effort is the regional landfill's effort to recycle difficult-to-landfill items. More integration is needed concerning localized items, such as household recyclables being targeted in this project. Waste management efforts could be improved with a more integrated method, such as the one found in Wayne County. Over the long term, the region-wide needs of a comprehensive collection system will be met by all three counties working on one larger collection mechanism.

3. Project Objectives and Participation

The overall project **objective** is the collection of 200 tons of additional recyclable materials in the next year through various mobile drop-off days scheduled in each community. This objective has been developed to model the successful Wayne County waste management project. The objective of collecting an additional 200 tons meets the expectations of the regional landfill commission and the county leaders. (See Form E.)

There are several **actions** to be used to meet the objective. First, the county will purchase new equipment and vehicles (bins, bin loading hoist, and used truck) in order to store and haul the material. Included will be two 24-foot, 6-compartment bins; a used truck; and a hydraulic lift hook. Second, the county will hire a part-time driver to coordinate the scheduling of and conduct the operation of the community collections. Third, the county will advertise the program and educate the public about the benefits and parameters of the program. There are persons in the county with working knowledge of recycling programs. Finally, there will be collection events on a regular basis in each community. All towns and their surrounding areas will be served on a regular basis.

The project goals will be:

• Obtained by completing the above specific actions. There will be the staff person(s) necessary to implement all aspects of the project. There are resources in Wayne and Union Counties from whom the project coordinator in Decatur County can learn more about how to operate the program effectively. The educational component will help attain proper use of the facilities and, therefore, will allow the driver/collector to focus on the task of collecting actual recyclables. An educated public that takes its recyclables to community sites for the driver/collector will achieve its goals.

• Measured by costs versus benefits. These costs include the monetary costs for vehicle and equipment maintenance, the driver's salary and benefits, and costs of collections and delivery to the recycler. Benefits are the deliverables discussed below, including both monetary and environmental benefits. Benefits can be measured in terms of tons of material diverted. The project can be measured by comparing project collection results from FY 1999 to FY 2000 in terms of the objective of increasing the tonnage of recyclables by 200 tons. In addition, the costs of the operation of the project can be compared to the benefits of reduced landfill costs and the benefits of recycling.

• Sustained by the continued need to recycle. The need for paper, plastic, metal, and glass products will assure that the need for the project will continue. Recycling will always be necessary. As long as the market is not strong enough to allow competition on the private level and as long as recycling is considered a good public policy, community programs sustained on the government level will be necessary. See Criterion #4 to find the description of overall project sustainability.

• **Justified** by the reduction of the solid waste stream and the increase in accessibility of recycling facilities. There are people in the county who want to recycle but cannot do so under the existing circumstances. This program will require of participants (residents) few additional incentives and eliminate many of the burdens of recycling. The costs to homeowners and the county will be minute compared to the long-term environmental benefits.

There will be tangible and non-tangible deliverables. Tangible deliverables include:

- Reduction in landfill costs—including tonnage fees to residents, costs of landfill operation, and potentially the costs of non-attainment fees paid to the Department of Natural Resources;
- Accessibility of recycling to all households in the county, as many rural residents currently want to recycle but cannot currently do so, due to a lack of facilities;
- Education about the benefits of recycling and the availability of the program that will enable the county to have maximum public participation and, therefore, more tonnage diverted;
- The initial purchase of equipment that will ensure a sustainable program; and
- The availability of additional goods in the recycling market, which may reduce product costs in the area and statewide.
- The reduction of the current level of improperly managed solid waste by 200 tons per year. Such waste often fills crowded landfills and litters roadways, fields, yards, and parking lots.

The statewide long-term program benefits will be more intangible. It is known that improperly managed waste is an eyesore, can pollute soil and water, and can create environmental problems of all types. No one at this time can measure the long-term benefits of recycling upon the environment.

There will be two groups of **participants** in this project. The County Board of Supervisors is the first group. A voting member of this board is a voting member of the Landfill Commission. The Commission is implementing a waste management comprehensive plan that recommends this type of project be completed in each county under landfill jurisdiction. The role of the Commission is to provide the means to fund and plan for the project. These provisions include resolutions establishing recycling service fees and appropriations for project costs. The second participant group is a private group lead by the County Auditor. The role of this group is to implement the project as laid out in FORM C. This group has access to resources from neighboring counties that have experience with a strong locally coordinated recycling program. They have also extensively studied the approach to recyclable collection that has been successful in Wayne County.

4. Project Impact

The most important deliverable will be the **solid waste diverted from the landfill system**. The diverted solid waste will include cardboard, #1 and #2 plastics, clear glass, aluminum, newspapers, and magazines. Approximately half the total tonnage will be paper products. Expansion to include white paper and other materials may occur over the next several years. It is estimated that up to 200 tons of solid waste will be diverted from the Wayne-Ringgold-Decatur Regional Landfill as a direct result of this program in its first year alone. The total diversion of targeted materials in the county will reach 400 tons. The amount of solid waste may increase in the future as the program increases local funding and scope. Wayne County, which has a similar program, recycled approximately 250 tons of these materials in FY 1996, even though the program included only 70% of the population of Decatur County. With a potential to combine such programs on a multi-county level, the per capita diversion of these materials over the next ten years could be as high as 0.06 tons per year.

The **cost per ton** of the 200 tons projected to be diverted in FY 2000 and beyond incorporates several factors: costs to start-up and operate the program, costs forgone by diverting the materials. and impacts of the expansion of the program. In FY 2000 the costs per ton of the program is estimated to be \$210, which is start-up and operational costs for the first year divided by the number of tons recycled and includes the approximate landfill diversion cost savings of \$10 per ton. In FY 2005 the costs per ton of the program will be \$53, which is the \$14,000 yearly operational cost divided by \$220 tons of materials diverted and includes the approximate landfill diversion cost savings of \$10 per ton. In FY 2010 the costs per ton of the program will be \$46, which is the \$14,500 yearly operational cost (inflationary) divided by 250 tons of material diverted and includes the approximate landfill diversion cost savings of \$12 per ton. These costs will go down dramatically if a strong recycling market is involved and the diverted materials are sold on the market. The county is working with a unit-based system that will designate use fees for assistance in operating the project over the next ten years.

Both the costs and benefits of the program will affect the targeted population. At cost, all residents in the county will be able to have timely access to recycling drop-off bins. The majority of the rural residents have shown interest in a program as long as the fees are low. The most ideal methods to make these costs low are to continue to increase both the recyclable market participation and the number of tons of recycled goods. Desired behavioral changes of households as a result of the program are increased recycling and waste diversion per capita, less trash illegally discarded, and a better understanding of how and why to recycle. It is also intended that local markets for recycled goods would be developed and that the public will understand those markets. The ultimate result of the project on the population will be a stronger sense of assurance that their solid waste needs will be met over the long term.

This project will likely not affect **toxicity** as much as other toxic material recycling projects. However, the project will ensure that recyclables will be spared from the toxins that may enter the waste stream at the landfill. This is ensured because the householder will separate toxic materials from the recyclables before any materials are disposed. The landfill will continue to handle most toxins and will find suitable recycling and disposal needs. However, the program can affect the number of toxic materials that are landfilled by limiting the amount of solid waste needed to be sorted, thus making it less time-consuming to sort out the toxic materials at the landfill. Overall, this program, although it will involve recycling of only non-toxins, will reduce landfill solid waste toxicity slightly.

There will likely be low-impact **market effects** as a result of this project, and no new markets will be developed. Market effects are primarily those related to the additional diverted materials that will be sold on the market. Paper, glass, plastic, and aluminum are highly recyclable in Iowa and in the regional market. These materials will be sent to the regional recycler that also collects from other counties and cities in the region. These materials will add to the regional supply of recyclables sold by the recycler. The effect this could have is the strengthening of regional competition in the market, placing Iowa and the region in a better position to compete successfully in the recycling market.

This project is very highly **replicable** in other counties. It is hoped that Ringgold County will soon follow Decatur and Wayne Counties in this process. A testament to the program's replicability is the strong similarities of Decatur County's planned program to the existing program in Wayne County. The entire planned program is based on successes of surrounding counties and the needs of individual communities in the county. All counties of similar size and population distribution as Decatur County can easily adopt this type of project. All counties in the south central Iowa region have access to recyclers who handle paper, aluminum, glass, and plastics.

The project will be **sustained** by the decrease in landfill non-attainment fees paid to the state and by the unit-based collection fees to collect the solid waste, including recyclables. The annual monetary costs will average approximately \$14,000. This amount is much less than the local match portion of the first year of the program. As long as the county can reasonably charge the residents a fee to operate the program, there will be a fund available to operate the program. A fee of \$0.65 per month for 2,000 rural and small-town households would likely be adequate to fund this program over the long-term, and it would be a lower fee if the larger towns with existing programs are included in the county program. The level of fees could be increased if the mileage expenses, vehicle depreciation, and collection site costs are higher than expected.

FORM C

PROJECT TIMETABLE

SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

Applicant Name: De	catur County	·	
Project Beginning Date:	October 1, 1999 (or as soon as July 1 round funding is an	nounced)	
Project Ending Date:	September 30, 2000		

This timetable should account for planning and if applicable, construction phases of the project as well as the first year of project implementation.

<u></u>			
Task or Activity	Beginning Date For Each Task	Ending Date For Each Task	Group/Person Responsible
Purchase and licence of vehicle	October 1, 99	October 10, 99	Bd. of Supervisors
Purchase and installation of hydraulic loading hook.	October 1, 99	October 30, 99	Bd. of Supervisors
Purchase of Recycling Bins	October 1, 99	October 30, 99	Bd. of Supervisors
Publish informational notices of recycling program	November 3, 99	November 25, 9	9 Bd. of Supervisors
Hire part-time driver (certified)	December 1, 99	September 30, 2000	Bd. of Supervisors
Operate Recycling Program	December 1, 99		Bd. of Supervisors
		2000	
	·		
	٠.		

FORM D

BUDGET SUMMARY SHEET

SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

Applicant Name: Decatur County

ITEM AND QUANTITY	DNR REQUEST	LOCAL SHARE	TOTAL COST
1986 Ford F-600 Truck (1)	4,000	2,000	6,000
24' 6-compartment recycling bin (2)	5,000	4,690	9,690
Hydraulic lift hook, cost include labor and parts (1)	6,000	12,000	18,000
Published Notices/Education of new program (quantity N/A)	0	300	300
Salary of driver (1/2 time empl.)	5,000	5,400	10,400
TOTAL COSTS	20,000	24;390	44,390

Note: Follow guidelines closely regarding the maximum amount of funding assistance possible for each expenditure involving program funds. All eligible expenses will be funded at not more than 75%.

When completing Form D, clearly identify existing local match items from local match items where financial assistance will not be requested.

FORM E

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY REVIEW AND COMMENT FORM

SOLID WASTE ALTERNAIVES PROGRAM

Applicant Name: Decatur County		
Date Appl	lication Received: June 7; 1999	
Responsib	le Agency Name: Wayne-Ringgold-Decatur County Regional Landfill	
Signature	: Karen Denney	
	General Manager	
Date:	6-10-99	

- 1. Is the proposed project consistent with the solid waste comprehensive plan or subsequent plan? Please elaborate.
- Wayne-Ringgold-Decatur Regional Landfill completed a subsequent solid waste comprehensive plan revision May 1997. In that document, the following consistencies are found concerning recycling best practices projects:
 - Current programs available: Landfill--takes certain difficult to dispose items, such as pallets, tires, large pieces of metal, chemical jugs, and electrical/ mechanical appliances. Lamoni--successful residential curbside program. Leon-successful drop-off collection program. b. Item #5 of Comprehensive Plan within
- 2. Is the Agency aware of competitors for the targeted solid waste materials identified in the application? If yes, will the proposed project adversely affect the operations of the competing entity and how?
- Due to the small rural market in the region, there are no major competitors. The material: are collected and recycled regionally and are sold nationwide as new products. The rural market almost ensures that recycling is more of a public service rather then a profitable business. Because this project will increase the numbers of materials recycled, recyclers will be the beneficiaries. This project will not create new competition or new recycling processes in the region. Current recyclers in the region recycle commercial waste only, except in some communities.

 3. Is all or a portion of the targeted solid waste materials currently landfilled? If not, please elaborate.
- Yes, a large portion is landfilled. In 1996 approximately 20.78% of all solid waste generated was either reduced or recycled in the landfill region. Much of this was in Wayne County, which has the most comprehensive recycling program in the WRD region. Decatur's planned project will imitate the Wayne County methodology. The county, other than Leon and Lamoni, does not recycle the targeted materials. Due to this, most is landfilled or sent from rural areas to these cities. This causes a burden on the landfill and the programs in these communities. It is estimated that approximately 50% of the targeted materials in the county currently landfilled will be recycled in this first year, mostly due to increasing recycling accessability in rural areas of the county.

 4. Can the project, as proposed, be considered to have a regional impact on the targeted solid waste stream? If not, is

there the potential for it to be expanded to have a regional impact and how?

The proposed project is a county-wide project, but it could be expanded to a regional (multi-county) project if other counties without such a project area willing to participate. Currently, all counties surrounding Decatur, except Ringgold, have county-wide programs. Most of these counties have regional projects, with three or more counties. Upon success, and upon the agreement by the Commission, the project could be expanded to the entire WRD Region. It will take a few years in the meantime for Ringgold and Decatur to establish county-wide programs.

5. Are the landfill diversion figures proposed in the application consistent with the solid waste comprehensive plan figures? If not, how are they inconsistent?

Yes. The program in Decatur County is expected to divert as much materials as the Wayne County program. It is expected to enable the county to divert more than the 20.78% reduction in 1996. Wayne County diverted 250.21 tons in FY 1996, a per capita tonnage of .05. The rural parts of Decatur County have a population that indicates nearly 200 tons will be recycled that currently are not. This project meets the minimum recycling goal for such projects by recycling glass, aluminum, paper, and plastic

6. In the Agency's opinion, does the applicant's project staff have the experience and knowledge to successfully implement the proposed project? Please elaborate.

Yes, there are a few people in the county that can start the program. They have extensive knowledge and assistance from Wayne County and the Cities of Leon and Lamoni. They will be able to hire a qualified driver to complete the collections. The technical aspects of recycling will be undertaken by recycling professionals, as is done in other counties and on other projects.

7. Does the responsible agency feel the project is viable as proposed, given current and projected populations, the available solid waste stream, and current and proposed landfill diversion activities? Please elaborate.

Yes, the program is very viable. The population of the county is stable, so that the need for the program will not decrease. There is a noted and researched solid waste stream. Because of the knowledge of the solid waste stream, the County will be able to easily plan collection events and reach all parts of the county. The County has learned what are considered to be effective solid waste strategies in part through experience with other counties and what the current resident's attitudes. It has been determined that the best strategy is to have local collection days, with a driver on-site with the bins being filled. The types of materials and the methods of collection are very much suited for the area. 8. Other Comments:

This program will strengthen the region's solid waste planning. It is hoped that through this project, rural Ringgold County will also implement a project. Over time, it will be more feasible to meet IDNR waste reduction goals, namely the FY 2000 goal of 50% reduction.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR PAUL W. JOHNSON, DIRECTOR

August 5, 1999

William F. Greenwood Decatur County Courthouse 207 N. Main Leon IA 50144

Dear Mr. Greenwood:

The Waste Management Assistance Division and the review committee have completed its review of Solid Waste Alternatives Program pre-proposals submitted during the July 1999 round of funding. We are pleased to announce that your pre-proposal has been selected for further review. This letter does not assure funding. Review and approval of the following information is required before funding recommendations take place.

The review committee requests that you submit:

Define your educational program for this project. Please include a detailed budget.

Outline your funding source for the driver and maintenance of the 1986 Ford Collection Truck after Solid Waste Alternatives Program funds have been exhausted. Discuss project sustainability over several years.

Deadline for submittal of the required materials is August 23,1999. The information will be reviewed and a decision made by September 13, 1999. If approved, a draft contract will be constructed for your review and approval. Once a final contract has been and signed by project participants along with the Department, Solid Waste Alternatives Program funds will be made available. expected to occur by September 27, 1999.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 515-281-8672.

Sincerely,

Leslie Leager

Program Planner

Waste Management Assistance Division

Leslie -I received this letter on August 10.

OFFICE OF

COUNTY AUDITOR **DECATUR COUNTY**

LEON. IOWA 50144

1999 AUG 25 A 8: 55

August 19, 1999

Leslie Leager, Program Planner Waste Management Assistance Division Iowa Department of Natural Resources Wallace State Office Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Ms. Leager,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit additional information for the final application for Solid Waste Alternative Program Funds. The County has been working hard to prepare for the program by arranging purchases for the needed equipment and by budgeting funding for future operational costs. Please note below the requested materials as per your letter dated August 5, 1999.

Define your educational program for this project. Please include a detailed budget. I will be heading the educational program for the county. The County Board of Supervisors and myself have studied the programs in surrounding counties and have determined the best practices for Decatur County, as shown in the pre-proposal.

During the first year of the program, which funding is being requested, the educational program will be just beginning. However, there will be a strong and coordinated public notification component. This component will involve the development of a public announcement about the program and the need for it. Included will be information related to residential costs, what can be recycled, when it can be recycled, and where bins will be available. This information will be printed weekly in local newspapers in the county for the first month of the program and will be printed monthly after that time. In addition, educational materials will be developed with aid of the expertise of local recycling coordinators. Such materials include information on why recycling is beneficial to society and what happens to waste when recycled verses discarded. This information will be put in local papers and may be available on the local radio and as brochures.

The following estimated budget will be used:

Education Budget

Published Notices Recycling Education \$500 (printing and staff) 1st Year \$500 (printing and staff) 2nd Year and Beyond \$150 (printing and staff) (printing and staff) \$850

Leslie Leager
Solid Waste Alternatives Program—Additional Information
Decatur County
Page 2

While the public notification portion of the project will be a higher front-end cost, the recycling education portion will be expanded over time. All education costs will be paid with local funds. There are sufficient funds to pay for these costs within the local match pledged each year. Note that this is a larger budget for education than what was originally planned in the pre-proposal.

• Outline your funding source for the driver and maintenance of the 1986 Ford Collection Truck after Solid Waste Alternatives Program funds have been exhausted. Discuss project sustainability over several years. After the initial purchase of the vehicle, the only ongoing costs will be the costs of the driver, fuel, and maintenance. The County through its budget will pay for all these costs over time. The county has been able to set aside almost \$28,000 to be used for project costs this coming year.

The following costs can be noted, based on an amended budget:

0	<u>1999-2000</u>	2000-2001 yearly onward
Purchase of Truck	\$6,000	\$0
Maintenance of Truck	\$1,000	\$3,000 (depreciation)
Purchase of 2 Bins	\$9,690	\$0
Maintenance of Bins	\$500	\$1,000
Purchase of Lift Hook	\$18,000	\$0
Maintenance of Hook	\$1,000	\$1,500
Education Component	\$1,000	\$1,000 (see above)
Salary of Driver	\$10,400	\$12,000 (inflation)
Total Estimated Cost	<i>\$47,590</i>	\$18,500
Local Cost-Budgeted	<i>\$27,590</i>	\$18,500

All operation costs will be affordable for the county over time. Landfilling will reduce by at least 200 tons in the first year alone, and this will reduce actual residential landfilling costs and non-attainment fees a total of at least enough to justify additional fees to residents for recycling services. All the local fees will be paid to the County, beginning this year, and the county will use the fees to sustain the program in the future at approximately \$18,500 per year. The fees to residential households will average \$5.00 per year, which is affordable to the local residents.

If you have any question concerning the completeness of this information, please contact me at 515.446.4323 or Jeremy Rounds of Southern Iowa Council of Governments at 515.782.8491. It is my hope that you will agree with the leaders of Decatur County that recycling is necessary to the extent to justify financial assistance for this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal to date.

Sincerely,

William F. Greenwood, County Auditor

Decatur County

Cc: Jeremy Rounds, SICOG

File

Lange of the Contraction of the