



Leading the way
to a better future

Waste Less

Dakota County Planning Commission
Solid Waste Management Plan, September 28, 2023

1




WasteLess

Solid Waste Management Plan Update - Overview

Tonight's Presentation and Discussion:

1. Solid Waste Overview
2. Dakota County 2018-2038 Solid Waste Management Plan, accomplishments from the last update
3. Guiding framework: the State Metropolitan Solid Waste Policy Plan and new areas of emphasis for county plans
4. Planning process and stakeholder engagement



2

WasteLess

Solid Waste Overview

Current solid waste management methods

Dakota
COUNTY

3

WasteLess

What is Solid Waste?

- Solid waste = garbage, trash, and other discarded waste materials resulting from industrial, commercial, agricultural operations, and from community activities
 - Includes recyclable materials
 - Includes organics
- Does not include:
 - Hazardous waste
 - Rocks
 - Sewage sludge



Dakota
COUNTY

4

WasteLess

Solid Waste Management

- Minnesota Waste Management Act protects natural resources and public health
- Waste hierarchy establishes preference for waste management
- Counties responsible to implement solid waste programs
 - 75% recycling rate by 2030 (MN Stat. §115A.552)

Minnesota's waste hierarchy

Most preferred environmental option

Least preferred environmental option

Reduction
Reuse
Recycling
Composting
Resource Recovery
Landfilling

Dakota COUNTY

5

WasteLess

2018-2038 Dakota County Solid Waste Plan

Dakota COUNTY

6

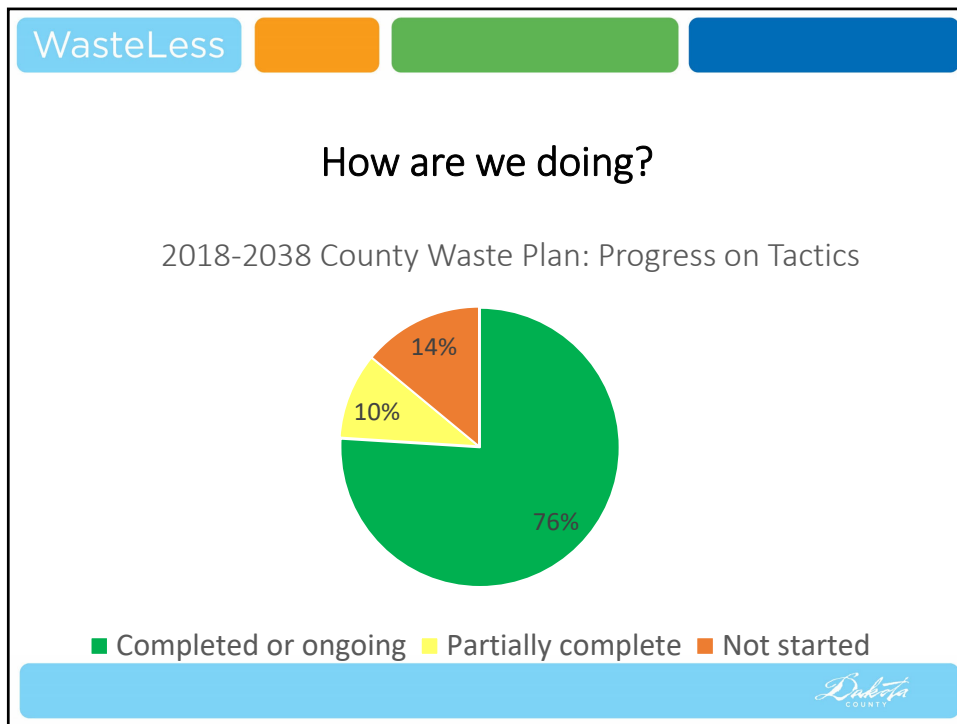
2018-2038 Dakota County Solid Waste Plan

- Guides solid waste program and policy development
- Strategies to implement state responsibilities and to achieve statutory goals
- 20-year timeframe



2018-2038 Dakota County Solid Waste Plan

- Organized by solid waste program areas:
 - Regional solutions
 - Source reduction & reuse
 - Collection best practices
 - Recycling management
 - Organics management
 - Non-municipal solid waste
 - Recycling markets
 - Organics markets
 - Emerging technology
 - Product stewardship
 - Landfill abatement
 - Toxicity reduction & Hazardous waste management
- Each program area has strategies, tactics, and timing



9

WasteLess

Current County Plan Accomplishments

New initiatives

- Online map of reuse and repair businesses
- Multifamily recycling program
- Food waste prevention education campaigns for residents

Dakota COUNTY

10

WasteLess

Current County Plan Accomplishments

Expanded initiatives

- Fix-it Clinics
- Organics drop-off sites
- Compost use in county roadside and landscaping projects
- Grant funding for waste reduction and reuse for businesses, schools and municipalities



11

WasteLess

Current County Plan Accomplishments

Ordinance updates


- Designated lists of recyclables all haulers must collect
- Haulers provide weekly recycling
- Generators must recycle
 - Residents
 - Multifamily properties, schools, events, businesses, municipalities – following best practices
 - Organics diversion by large generators

12

WasteLess

Policy Plan & County Plan


Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan
& Dakota County Solid Waste Management Plan



13


WasteLess

Metropolitan Solid Waste Policy Plan: Purpose



DRAFT
Metropolitan Solid Waste Management
Policy Plan 2022-2042

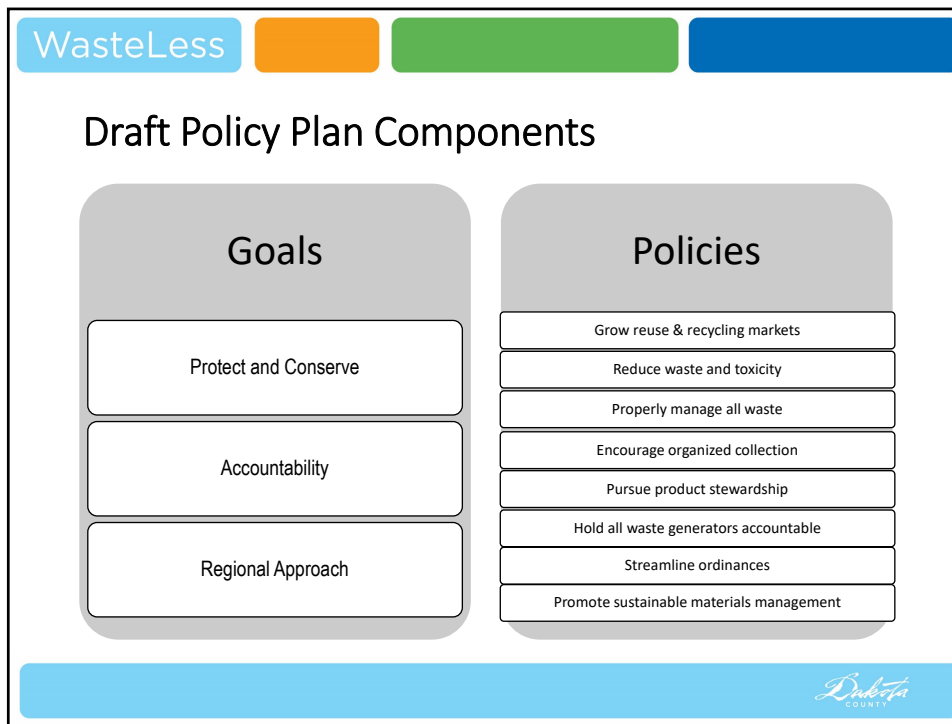
A 20-year policy plan for solid waste management that sets goals and policy for the metropolitan solid waste system.



- Developed by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Sets direction for waste management in the Metro area
- Must be followed by County
- Updated every 6 years
 - Revised draft released June 5 - Sept 17 for public comment
- County Plan must be revised within 9 months of final Policy Plan



14



15

WasteLess

Draft Policy Plan: Metro Management Objectives

Management Method	Metro (2021)	County (2022)	2025	2030	2036	2042
Waste Reduction	0%	-	1%	2.1%	3.3%	5%
Recycling	28.6%	25%	36.9%	47.6%	47.4%	47.4%
Organics	16.6%	31%	21.5%	27.6%	27.6%	27.6%
Waste to Energy	21.4%	1%	24%	20%	20%	20%
Landfill	33.4%	44%	17.6%	5%	5%	5%

Dakota COUNTY

16

WasteLess

Draft Policy Plan: New Structure and Point System

Most preferred

Reduce Reuse Recycle Organics recycling Waste to energy Landfill with gas recovery Landfill

Least preferred

- Required county strategies
- Optional county strategies – must achieve a point minimum
 - Move up the waste hierarchy
 - Level of difficulty

Dakota COUNTY

17

WasteLess

Draft Policy Plan: New/Expanded Emphasis Areas

- Waste reduction and reuse
- Tree and wood waste management
- Deconstruction and building material reuse

Dakota COUNTY

18

WasteLess

Draft Policy Plan: Waste Reduction & Reuse

- Reduce food waste by improving food rescue
- Educational campaigns to reduce waste
- More productive use and reuse materials



19

WasteLess

Draft Policy Plan: Tree & Wood Waste Management

- Develop a wood waste plan
- Expand markets for waste wood products



20

WasteLess

Draft Policy Plan: Deconstruction & Building Material Reuse

- Develop sustainable building materials management plan
- Facilitate options for reuse of materials



Preservation & Renovation
Maintain the location and as much of the existing structure as possible, renovating for improved efficiency and usability. Especially in cases where the same building need is being satisfied with a project (i. e. residential to residential, etc.) the environmental benefit is even greater by not building new.



Structural Moving
Maintain as much of the existing structure as possible and transport to a new location. Allows for a change in the use of a project location, while keeping a functional building in circulation.



Deconstruction
Salvage usable materials (whether valuable for aesthetic reuse, historical significance, functional or structural reuse) by strategically removing and sorting materials. Allows for a change in the use of a project location, while keeping materials in circulation.



Demolition
Removal of a structure in cases where the building and materials are no longer usable. Allows for a change in the use of a project location but has the greatest environmental impact.



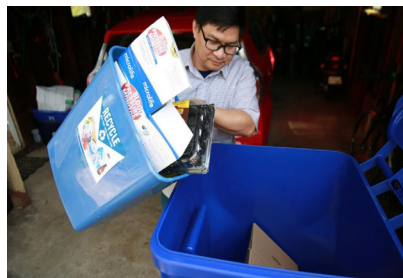
Most to least preferred option for sustainable materials management

Dakota
COUNTY

21

WasteLess

Draft Policy Plan: Recycling and Organics Management



- Improve commercial recycling
- Increase residential curbside organics collection access across the region
- Increase commercial collection of organics

Dakota
COUNTY

22

WasteLess

Planning Commission Thoughts

What are potential barriers or opportunities for the Draft Policy Plan new emphasis areas?

Dakota
COUNTY

23

WasteLess

Planning Process and Stakeholder Engagement

Dakota County Stakeholder Engagement

Dakota
COUNTY

24

WasteLess

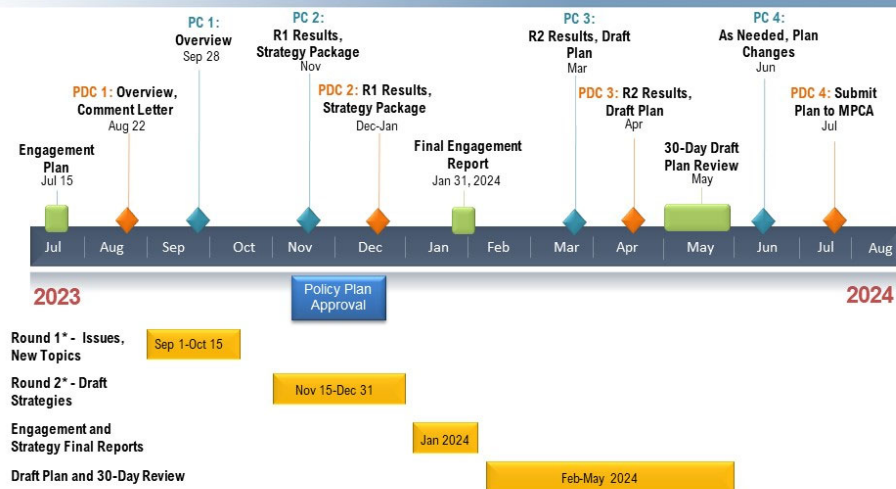
Public Engagement

- New emphasis areas in the Policy Plan
- We have a Public Engagement Plan to direct this activity



25

Solid Waste Management Plan Update Timeline



Round 1 and Round 2 will engage the waste industry, residents, business, schools, public entities, and specialty groups (tree/wood waste managers, reuse organizations, food rescue groups, and construction and demolition businesses). A revised draft Policy Plan was released for public comment on June 5, 2023, and MPCA Commissioner adoption of the Policy Plan is anticipated by November-December 2023. The new County Plan must be completed nine months after the MPCA Commissioner adopts the Policy Plan, by July-August 2024.

26

WasteLess

Stakeholder Groups and Engagement Plans

Round 1: Issues with new Policy Plan emphasis areas

Round 2: Feedback on draft county plan strategies

Key Audiences:

- Residents
- Waste Industry
- Businesses
- Schools
- Public Entities
- **New:** Tree Waste Management Orgs, Reuse Organizations, Construction/Demolition Organizations, Food Rescue Groups



Dakota
COUNTY

27

WasteLess

Next Steps

- Incorporate Planning Commission feedback into future engagement sessions
- Continue County Waste Plan revision preparations
 - Continue review of existing plan
 - Complete Round 1 stakeholder engagement
 - Take our survey!
 - Await final state Policy Plan
- Return to Planning Commission with Round 1 engagement feedback and draft strategies

Dakota
COUNTY

28

WasteLess

Planning Commission Comments and Questions

Additional recommendations on the proposed public engagement approach?

What additional information or data would be helpful for the Planning Commission at future meetings?

Dakota
COUNTY

29

WasteLess

Thank You

Dakota
COUNTY

30