

# School Recycling Study

Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania



Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.





# Intro to School Recycling Study

*Jennifer Summers, Professional  
Recyclers of Pennsylvania, Executive  
Director*





# Another Study?!






# Method





# Fun




**Recycle** **POSTER** Contest

Students can produce and submit an 8 ½" x 11" poster demonstrating the environmental benefits of recycling. The top 12 scoring posters will be used in a calendar template provided electronically to schools and members of the public for download and print. All submissions will be judged by a panel of Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania members.

Submissions can be sent to [shelly@proprecycles.org](mailto:shelly@proprecycles.org) and must be submitted by April 22, 2021.

Sponsored by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection



**Recycle** **VIDEO** Contest

Students can produce and submit a 3 - 5 minute video. Demonstrate which items can be recycled and how. The top scoring videos will receive awards, recognition from the DEP Secretary, and a press release.

All submissions will be judged by a panel of Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania members.

Submissions can be sent to [shelly@proprecycles.org](mailto:shelly@proprecycles.org) and must be submitted by April 22, 2021.

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# Green Space

\$5,000 toward materials and professional service  
from a landscape architect





# Recycling Technical Assistance Program

A value up to \$7,500, to upgrade recycling programs to maximize material recovery and ensure program sustainability





# Survey Responses Due April 22



We will continue to collect the surveys through the end of May 2021.





# Contact



[www.proprecycles.org](http://www.proprecycles.org)

Shelly Dreese + Jennifer Summers





# ACT 101

## The Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling & Waste Reduction Act (1988)

*Todd Pejack, Chief, DEP Municipal Recycling Implementation Section*





# ACT 101

## Requires recycling in communities:

- With populations greater than 10,000
- With populations greater than 5,000 but less than 10,000 and with a population density greater than 300/sq. mi.





# ACT 101

**Mandated recycling programs must ensure recycling by:**

- Residents
- Commercial establishments (e.g. businesses)
- Municipal establishments (e.g. government offices)
- Institutional establishments (e.g. schools)





# ACT 101

Requires the following materials (at a minimum) be collected and recycled by Commercial/Municipal/Institutional establishments:

- High-grade office paper
- Aluminum food & beverage containers
- Corrugated paper (Cardboard)
- Leaf waste





# ACT 101

**Allows a municipal ordinance to require some or all the following to be recycled by Commercial/Municipal/Institutional establishments:**

- Clear glass
- Colored glass
- Steel & Bimetallic cans
- Newsprint
- Plastics





# American Federation of Teachers

Issued a report containing the following:

- Schools and other educational facilities are often among the largest waste generators within a municipality
- Up to 24% of a typical school's waste is recyclable paper
- Up to 50% of a typical school's waste is food waste and non-recyclable paper which can be composted
- Up to 15% of a typical school's waste is glass and plastics





# Benefits of School Recycling

Include the following:

- Assistance to your municipality via state recycling incentives (grants)
- The potential to lower waste collection costs and experience revenue from recovered materials
- Promotes an environmental ethic among students and staff
- Reduces demand for waste disposal capacity (landfills, resource-recovery facilities)
- Helps to lower greenhouse gas emissions, demand for natural resources, and energy consumption





# Requirements vs. Practices

*Brent Dieleman, SCS Engineers,  
Senior Project Professional*

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# Steps for Successful School Recycling

1. Build Support
2. Start “Green Team”
3. Plan Program
4. Promote Program
5. Evaluate Program and
6. CELEBRATE!





# Beaver AREA

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## School District



“Where Tradition Dictates a Standard of Excellence”

- Beaver County – Western Pennsylvania
- Over 14,000 students
- \$225,000 grant from Shell Chemicals
- 16 school districts
  - 13 Participated in recycling program
- Program: Start Simple!



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# Recycling Operations





# Collection Dumpsters







# MENALLEN

## Elementary School

- Menallen Elementary School
- Uniontown Area School District
- K through 6<sup>th</sup> school
- Over 300 students
- Recycling started in 2011





# Recycling Operations



Picture source: Herald Standard



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# Recycling Team





# Upgraded Recycling Container





# New Playground





# State College Friends School





# Recycling Stations





# Lunchtime Recycling





# Results

| Material           | Quantity (tons) |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Mixed Paper        | 2,659           |
| Metal Cans         | 130             |
| Plastic Containers | 20              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>2,809</b>    |





# Special Thanks

- Holly Vogt – Director, Beaver County Department of Sustainability and Waste Management
- Christa Sabatula – Menallen School
- Donnan Stoicvay – Head of School, State College Friends School





# Contact Information

Brent Dieleman

SCS Engineers

(571) 353-2007

[bdieleman@scsengineers.com](mailto:bdieleman@scsengineers.com)



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# Important Resources Available to Schools

*Amy Mazzella di Bosco, Lebanon County Recycling  
Coordinator*

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# FREE Technical Assistance

## Waste/Recycling Industry Professionals

- County Recycling Coordinators
- Municipal Recycling Coordinators
- Contracted Waste Haulers/Recyclers





# County/Municipal Recycling Coordinator

## Waste Assessment

- Identify waste materials in waste/recycling stream
- Understand areas of waste generation within the buildings
- Understand current waste/recycling collection services
- Identify collection locations/methods of collections inside/outside
- Evaluate current frequency of collection
- Evaluate current container size
- Evaluate collection containers needs (classroom recycle bins, toters, dumpsters, etc.)





# County/Municipal Recycling Coordinator

## Education

- Education
  - ✓ Signs
  - ✓ Advertising
  - ✓ Posters
  - ✓ Newsletters
  - ✓ School TV Station/School Newspaper





# Contracted Hauler

## Connect and Communicate

- Establish connection and contact
- Discuss needs
- Provide specific expectations on collection and frequency for both the school and contracted hauler
- Maintain Communication throughout Contract
  - ✓ Touch base frequently
  - ✓ Share/identify problems and improvements for both school and contracted hauler





# Thank You!

Amy Mazzella di Bosco  
President, PROP  
Lebanon County Recycling Coordinator  
Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority  
1610 Russell Road  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717-867-5790 Ext. 307  
[amdb@goglra.org](mailto:amdb@goglra.org)



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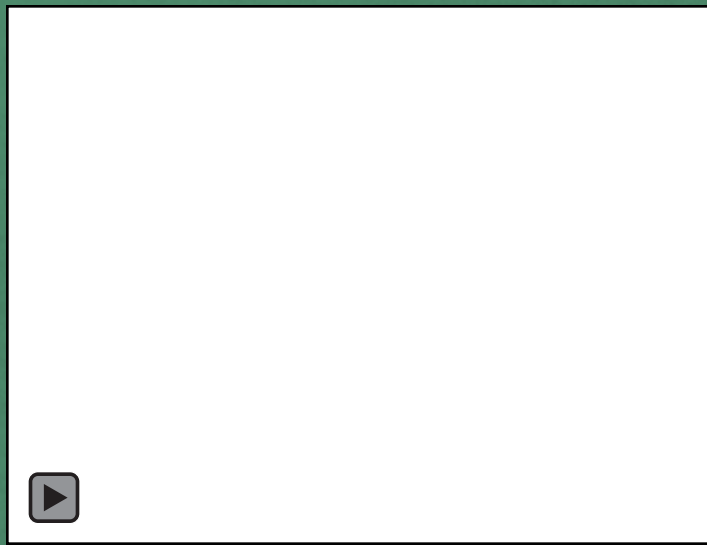
Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.





# RFP & Contracting

*Jennifer Smith, Waste Management, Eastern  
Public Sector Representative*



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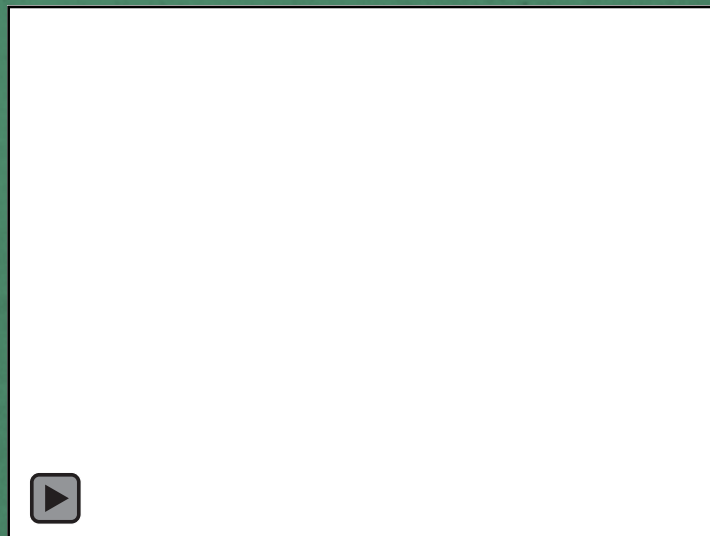
# RFP Contracting

Share your proposed RFP with County Coordinator

- Review State and County Mandates
- Flow Control
- Proposed Landfill Regulations



School Recycling Study



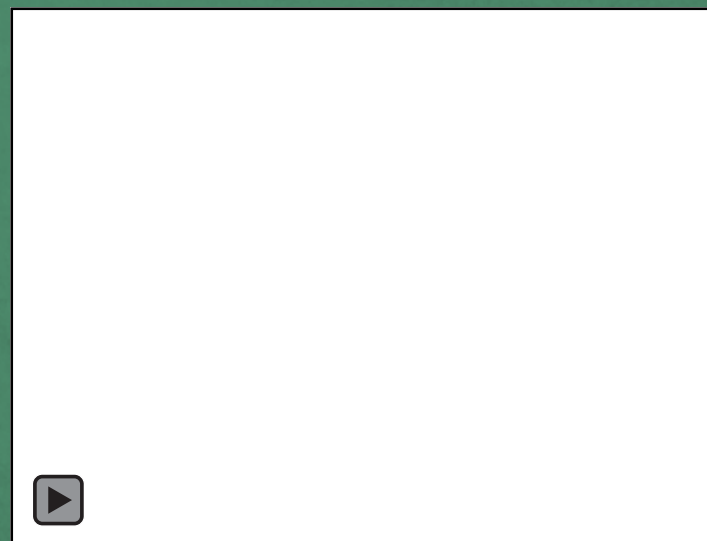
Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.





# Review Operations with Hauler for Costs Savings

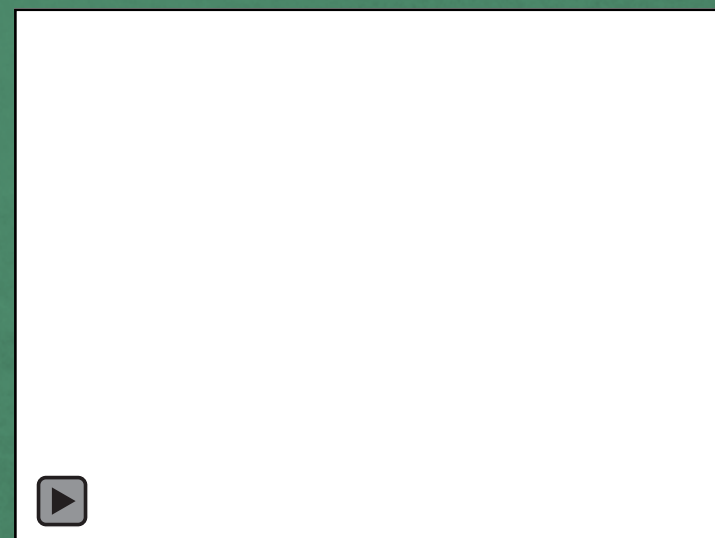
- What costs the hauler more?
- Time Constraints / Accessibility
- Container Specifics
- Extra Material / Contaminated Recycling





# Identify Waste & Recycling with Facilities and Food Services

- Food Prep Containers
- Box Breakdown
- Cardboard vs Single Stream
- Illegal Dumping





# Best Practices for School Recycling Operations

*Jennifer Summers, Professional  
Recyclers of Pennsylvania, Executive  
Director*

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# Questions

Contact Shelly Dreese  
Grant Program Manager, PROP  
908 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17102  
717-441-6049  
[shelly@proprecycles.org](mailto:shelly@proprecycles.org)



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