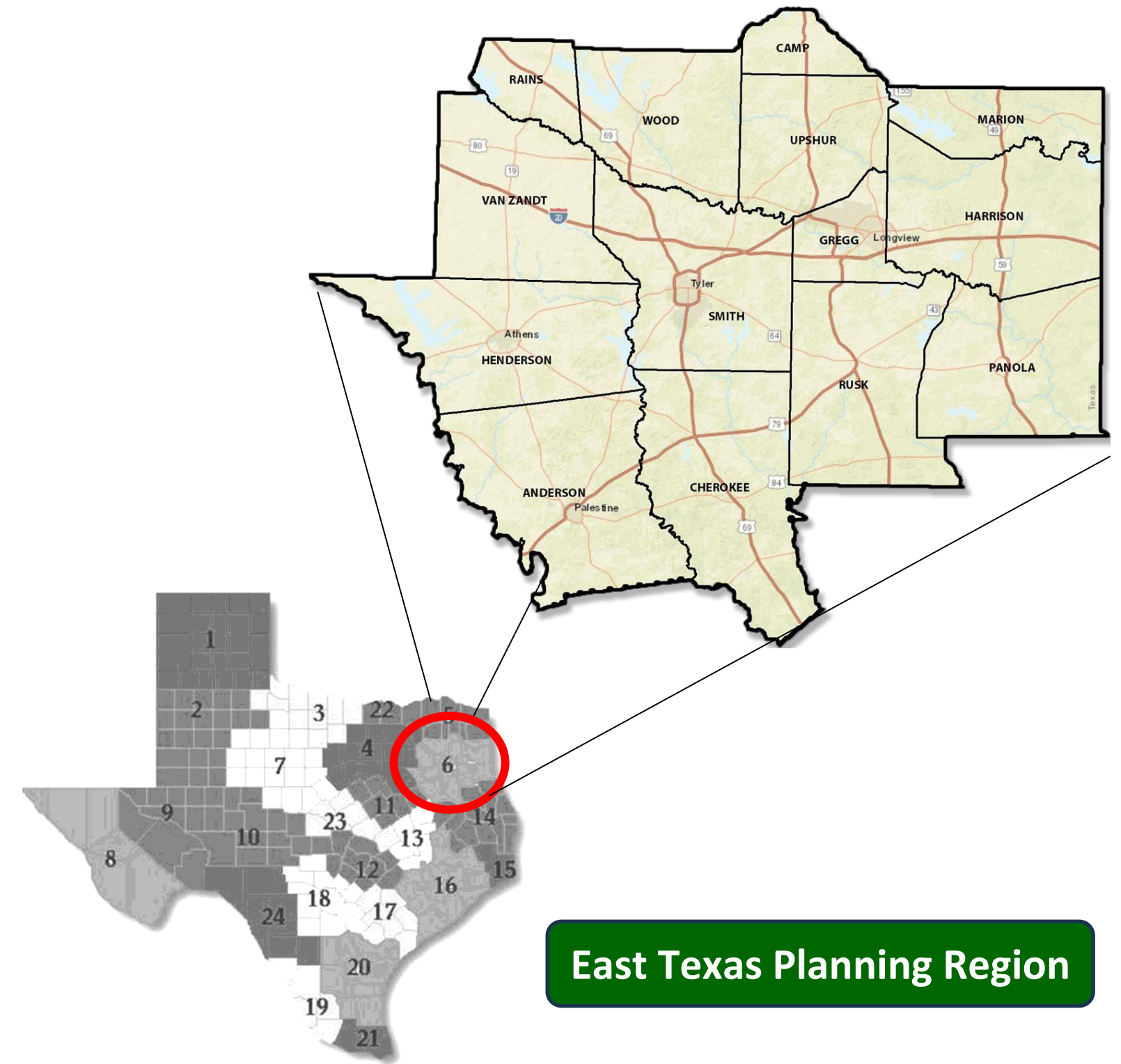




## **FY 26 – FY 27 SOLID WASTE GRANT APPLICATION WORKSHOP**

# What is the East Texas Council of Governments?

- Voluntary association of local governments
- Established in 1970
- Assists local governments in planning for common needs
- Serves as the bridge between federal, state, and local governments, helping cities and counties solve challenges and impact the future regionally



# Materials Management: Solid Waste Grant Program

- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) allocates funds generated by landfill tipping fees to the 24 council of governments in the State of Texas
- Portion of this funding at ETCOG is allocated towards local and regional implementation grants
- All COGs required to issue a biennial report to legislature detailing impacts and results of pass-through grants
- Reports Regional Solutions to Local Jurisdictions





# **\$161,705.00 Available for FY 26-FY 27 Regional Solid Waste Projects**

- All funding for these projects is subject to sufficient funds in the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Account and to the receipt and availability of funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature for the purposes of this call for projects
- In the event funding is not available, ETCOG has no obligation to provide funding to any projects that may be selected in association with this call for projects

# UPDATES

- One call for applications for FY 26/27
- Separate applications for each project year
- Grant application technical assistance hours
  - Beginning 9/10/25 – 9/24/25
  - Wednesdays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
  - Appointments Virtual, phone or in-person
- Submit Applications Via Email, Subject Line to State “Entity Name; Draft Review or Final”, “Year Requested” Solid Waste Grant Application
- Example: Smith County, Final FY 26 solid waste grant application or Draft review FY 26 solid waste grant application
- Supplies Category Threshold change from less than \$1,000.00 to less than \$10,000.00
- Equipment Category threshold change from \$5,000.00 or more to \$10,000.00 or more

# GRANT REQUIREMENTS SET BY TEXAS STATE LEGISLATURE & TCEQ

- Funds to be used 100% for solid waste
- Payments for expenses on **reimbursement basis only**
- Project expenses must be incurred within grant period & not prior to TCEQ approval, executed grant agreement with ETCOG, and notice to commence email from ETCOG
- Grant funded projects must not create unfair competition with existing private industry
- TxGMS- Each grant recipient is required to follow state and federal procurement regulations and guidelines
- Not allowed to charge citizens for participating in Solid Waste grant funded project events
- Revenues realized from recycling efforts funded through this program must be placed back into the respective solid waste management program, not into a funded entities general revenue fund

# GRANT REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

- If you are contractually obligated to use your current hauler, need to have separate paperwork/invoices for our solid waste grant
- Equipment updates required every odd numbered year
- Must request disposition of equipment if no longer using
- Equipment & controlled assets must be maintained on local & regional inventory
- Handwritten Applications Not Accepted
- Incomplete applications will receive no further consideration

## GRANT REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

- Request for reimbursement
  - To be eligible for reimbursement, a cost must have been approved and incurred & paid for within the time period of the grant contract
  - All reports must be turned in and project tasks complete
    - Results report & progress reports
- Pass-Through Grant Recipient Request for Funds
  - Request for reimbursement & Financial Status Report
  - Acknowledgement of receipt
- Documentation-invoices & copy of canceled checks bank or CC statement. Make sure it shows invoice that it is tied to
  - Copies of all materials & documents produced with grant funds:
    - Reports
    - Plans
    - Educational materials
    - Videos or digital photos of equipment and/or pictures depicting activities
    - One copy of any advertising &/or promotional materials



## GRANT REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

- Must agree to maintain during the Contract Period adequate insurance coverage sufficient to protect ETCOG & the TCEQ from all claims & liability for injury to persons & for damage to property arising from the Contract
  - Eligible for reimbursement under the grant. Copies of insurance will be required when submitting reimbursement paperwork
  - TCEQ will review the insurance costs on a case-by case basis, in the context of the specific project to determine if they are reasonable & necessary
  - For events, costs would be reimbursed only for the time period of the event
- Must acknowledge where funds come from on any communications
  - Example: *Funding for this event provided by ETCOG through a TCEQ Solid Waste Grant*

# GRANT REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED

- Site visit
  - Minimum One Scheduled per grant period
- Reporting is required
  - Quarterly Progress
  - Results
  - Year Later Results
- Project changes if different from application, require written permission prior to spend in order to be reimbursable. (budget categories, items not listed on application, scope etc.)
- Must support the ETCOG Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Goals & Objectives

# ETCOG SOLID WASTE PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES



# ETCOG SOLID WASTE PLAN GOALS, OBJECTIVES,

**GOAL #1 Reduce the amounts of waste generated & requiring disposal through source reduction, reuse & recycling**

**GOAL #2 Reduce the amounts of illegal dumping in the ETCOG Region**

**GOAL #3 Reduce the amounts of household hazardous waste disposed of in the ETCOG Region**

**GOAL #4 Create markets for recovered materials**

**GOAL #5 Assure disposal capacity**

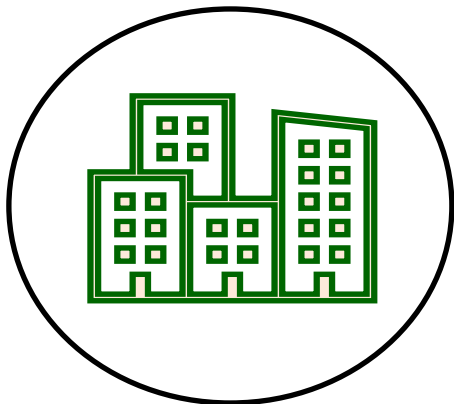
**GOAL #6 Provide for the cost-effective hauling of wastes**

**GOAL #7 Develop specific strategies for recovering organics & biosolids from the waste stream**



# Solid Waste Grant Program

## Eligible Entities



**Cities**

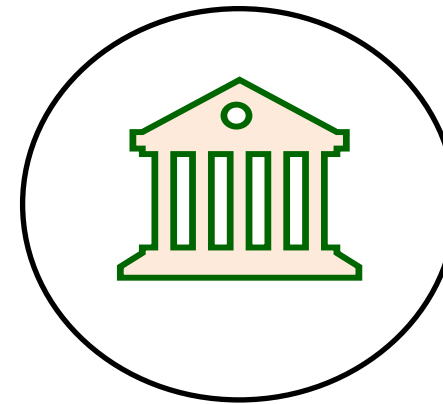


**Counties**



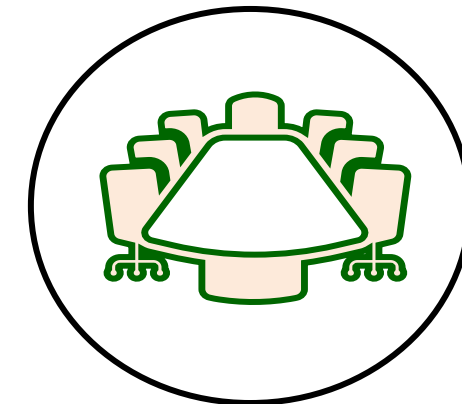
**Public Schools  
& School  
Districts**

(excluding Universities or  
postsecondary education &  
private institutions)



**General &  
Special Law  
Districts**

(Created in accordance with  
state law, and with authority  
and responsibility for water  
quality protection or municipal  
solid waste management,  
to include river authorities)



**Councils of  
Governments**

(ETCOG may propose to  
conduct a regional project)

# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

**Local Enforcement**

**Source Reduction  
and Recycling**

**Household  
Hazardous Waste**

**Litter and Illegal  
Dumping  
Programs**

**Citizens'  
Collection Stations  
and "Small"  
Transfer Stations**

**Local Solid Waste  
Management  
Plans**

**Technical Studies  
with a Regional  
Scope/Impact**

**Educational and  
Training Projects**

# FY 26 - FY 27 FUNDING PRIORITIES

## Tires



## Education

Made available by the East Texas Council of Governments



### REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING

Report an active illegal dumper or an illegal dump site at [www.etcog.org/rid](http://www.etcog.org/rid). Include pictures and tag your location on the map to assist the authorities. Bookmark this site on your phone and report from the scene.



SEE IT

SNAP IT

SEND IT

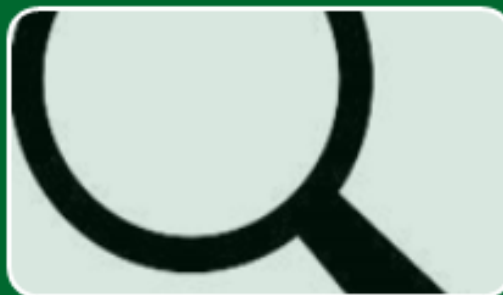


# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## LOCAL ENFORCEMENT



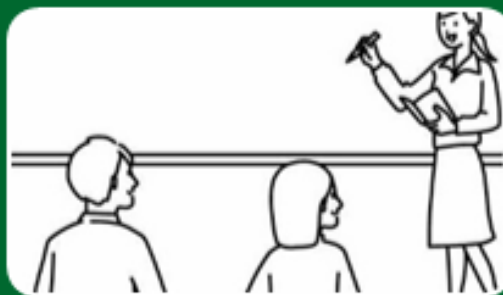
Prevention



Investigation



Enforcement



Education



# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## SOURCE REDUCTION & RECYCLING

- Facility design & construction
- Equipment:
  - Chippers
  - Balers
  - Crushers (non- trash)
  - Recycling & composting containers
  - Trailers
  - Forklifts
  - Trucks

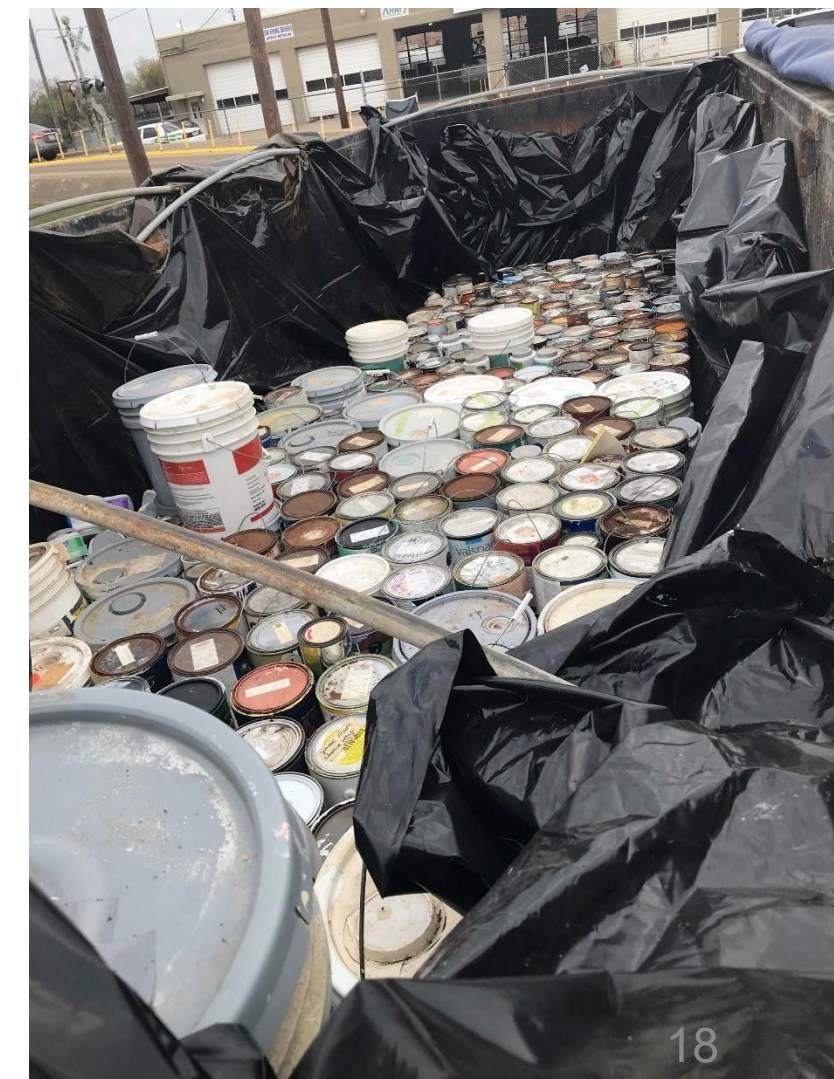




# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Household hazardous waste (HHW) is defined as any solid waste classified as hazardous which is generated in a household by a consumer
- Focused On:
  - Collection
  - Recycling
  - Re-use
  - Proper disposal
- Must be coordinated through the TCEQ/External Relations Division
- Be aware of registration and TCEQ notification requirements





# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING CLEANUP & COMMUNITY COLLECTION EVENTS



- Periodic community collection events
  - Only items for which no collection alternative is available (such as large & bulky items)
    - Not regular household trash that is normally picked up on trash day
- Placement of trash receptacles in public areas with chronic littering problems
- As much material as possible should be diverted from area landfills & targeted for reuse or recycling



# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## CITIZENS' COLLECTION STATIONS & "SMALL" REGISTERED TRANSFER STATIONS



- Construction & equipment for citizens' MSW collection stations
  - Incorporation of recycling options is encouraged
  - Upgrades
  - New Equipment

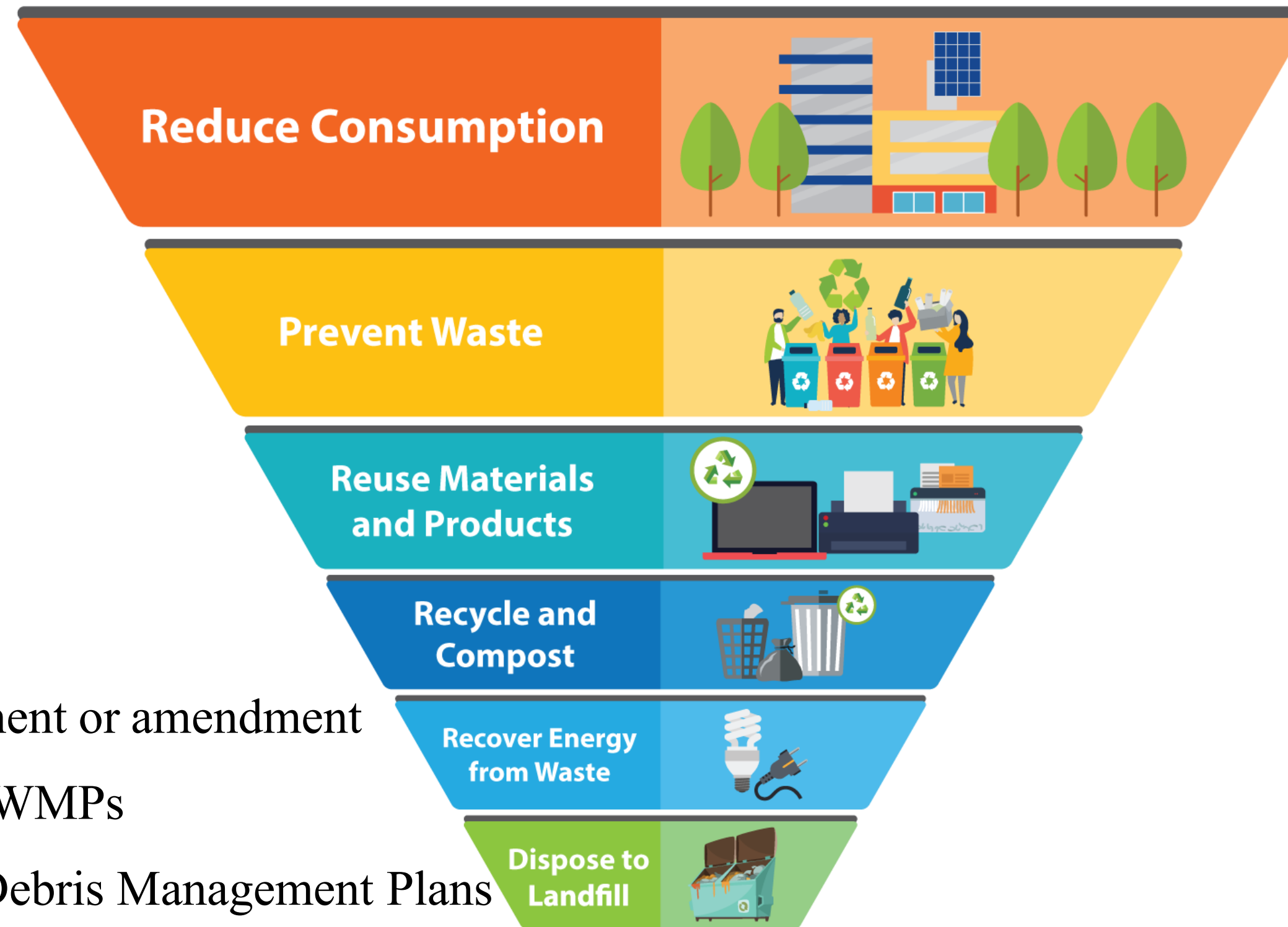
- Design & construction of MSW transfer stations that qualify for registration or notification
  - No projects requiring permits





# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## LOCAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS (SWMP)



- Development or amendment of local SWMPs
- Disaster Debris Management Plans
- Must be consistent with regional SWMP

# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## TECHNICAL STUDIES

- Collection & analysis of data & information for use in making local solid waste management decisions
  - Analysis of issues & needs
  - Evaluation of alternative solutions
  - Public input
  - Recommended actions

# ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

- Stand-alone education & training projects
- <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=727574913229541>
- Outreach and Education materials promoting solid waste diversion



- Public outreach & education on MSW issues



## Beyond Cleanups

- Disaster debris management plan project abstract
- Illegal dumping reduction strategy: Equipment and enforcement upgrades
- Disaster debris management plan creation
- Cardboard compactor: Upgrade to drop off station
- Minibeast horizontal grinder
- Upgrade to citizens collection station
- Wood chip project
- Chemical disposal and campus clean-out program
- Shared borders, Shared solutions: A regional approach to illegal dumping and environmental education
- Debris reduction initiative
- Standardized waste sorters
- Establishing baselines for future commercial recycling program
- Drop off station solid waste compactor



## Beyond Cleanups

- Upgrade to citizens collection station
- Bridging the gap in recycling access: Increasing access to multifamily properties
- Educational videos
- Transfer station building
- Tire Voucher Program
- ISD Recycling Education  
Batteries, Oil, Paint & Anti-freeze  
(BOPA) Event
- Drop off station solid waste compactor
- Recycling equipment and containers
- Local enforcement cameras
- Household hazardous waste
- Recycling Trailer & Transportation
- Recycling Bins and Big Belly at the Sports Fields

# Eligible Expense Categories

## Eligible Items

- Vehicles
- Trailers and trucks
- Communications equipment
- Surveillance equipment
- Recycling and composting containers
- Balers
- Crushers (non-trash)
- Forklifts
- Scales
- Chippers
- Fencing, barriers, and signage
- Protective gear and supplies
- Facility design and construction

## Eligible Items

- Design and construction of permanent collection facilities
- Consultant services
- Subcontract expenses
- Contractual services
- Salaries and fringe benefits
- Office supplies and equipment
- Equipment maintenance
- Vehicle maintenance
- Travel expenses
- Training
- Education and outreach materials
- Printing and advertising expenses

# Ineligible Expense Categories

- Firearms, ammunition, Hazmat gear and self-contained breathing apparatus
- Code Enforcement Positions-Cannot supplant existing salary. Must be new position, new employee
- Acquire land or an interest in land
- Funds may not be used to purchase food, meals, beverages or other refreshments
- Payment of salaries to any employee who uses alcoholic beverages on active duty
- Employment, contracts for services of a lobbyist, or for dues to an organization, which employs or otherwise contracts for the services of a lobbyist

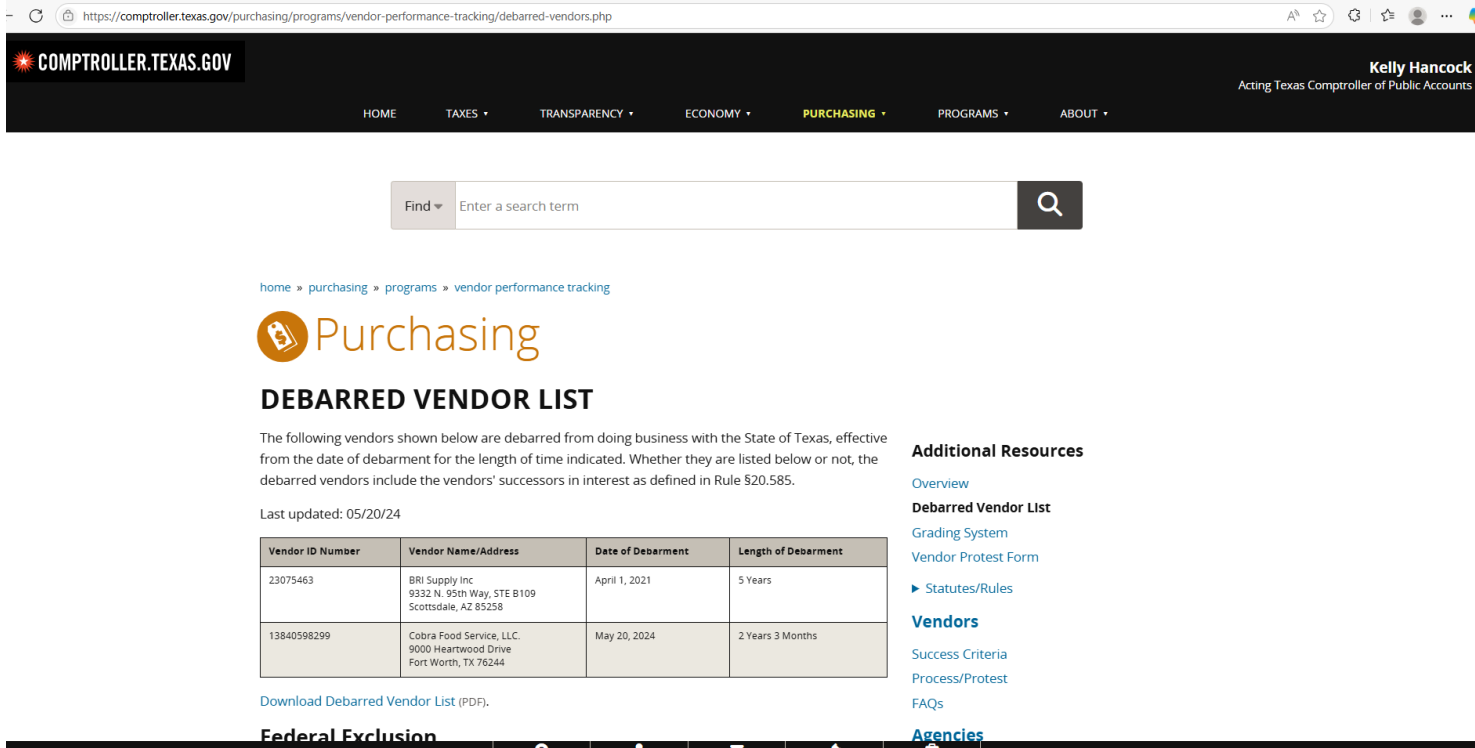
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## INELIGIBLE EXPENSES CONTINUED

- Except specifically authorized, projects or facilities that require a permit from the TCEQ &/or that are located within the boundaries of a permitted facility, including landfills, wastewater treatment plants, or other facilities
  - Restriction may be waived by the TCEQ, at its discretion, for recycling & other eligible activities that will take place within the boundaries of a permitted facility
- Assist an entity or individual to comply with an existing or pending federal, state, or local judgment or enforcement action
  - Funds may not be used to pay penalties imposed on an entity for violation of federal, state, or local laws & regulations
- Public & private entities subject to payment of state solid waste disposal fees & whose payments are in arrears may not receive funds through either a pass-through grant or subcontract

# INELIGIBLE EXPENSES CONTINUED

- Funds may not be provided through a pass-through grant or subcontract to any public or private entity that is barred from participating in state contracts by the Texas Facilities Commission



The screenshot shows the Texas Comptroller's website with the URL <https://comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/programs/vendor-performance-tracking/debarred-vendors.php>. The page features a navigation bar with links to HOME, TAXES, TRANSPARENCY, ECONOMY, PURCHASING, PROGRAMS, and ABOUT. A search bar is located below the navigation bar. The main content area is titled "Purchasing" and "DEBARRED VENDOR LIST". It includes a disclaimer: "The following vendors shown below are debarred from doing business with the State of Texas, effective from the date of debarment for the length of time indicated. Whether they are listed below or not, the debarred vendors include the vendors' successors in interest as defined in Rule 520.585." and a note: "Last updated: 05/20/24". A table lists two debarred vendors. To the right of the table are links for "Additional Resources" including Overview, Debarred Vendor List, Grading System, Vendor Protest Form, Statutes/Rules, Vendors, Success Criteria, Process/Protest, FAQs, and Agencies. A link to "Download Debarred Vendor List (PDF)" is also present.

Vendor ID Number	Vendor Name/Address	Date of Debarment	Length of Debarment
23075463	BRI Supply Inc. 9232 W. 95th Way, STE B109 Scottsdale, AZ 85258	April 1, 2021	5 Years
13840598299	Cobra Food Service, LLC. 9000 Heartwood Drive Fort Worth, TX 76244	May 20, 2024	2 Years 3 Months

- Activities, projects, programs, studies, etc. that overlap or duplicate funding for projects under other State funding programs are not authorized
- Cleanup of hazardous waste will not be eligible for funding



# Solid Waste Grant Program


## Application

- Signature page
- Authorized representatives and records location
- Completed grant project summary/description
- Project cost evaluation
- Level of commitment
- Scope of work
- Completed budget section
- Provided supplemental documentation for the budget and proposed project
- Matching funds, in-kind services & total project costs
- Completed scope/timeline section
- Completed private sector notification, if the proposed project type is source reduction and recycling, citizens' collection stations and "Small" registered transfer stations, or a demonstration project under the education and training project category


Planning for Sustainable Materials Management In East Texas

FY 26-FY 27 Solid Waste  
Implementation Grant Application Guidelines  
Program funded through a grant from The Texas Commission on  
Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

August 25



East Texas Council of Governments  
3800 Stone Rd.  
Kilgore, Texas 75662  
903-218-6467  
[Lisa.smith@etcog.org](mailto:Lisa.smith@etcog.org)  
[www.etcog.org/solid-waste-grant](http://www.etcog.org/solid-waste-grant)



[Municipal Solid Waste Grants](#)

## REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS TO THE APPLICATION

- Resolution/Court Order by the Applicant's governing body authorizing the submission of the application
- If indirect costs are included in the project budget, attach the Applicant's latest **indirect cost allocation plan**, including documentation of approval of the plan & the indirect cost rate by the Applicant's Federal Cognizant Agency or State Coordinating Agency.
- Attach any written comments submitted by private industry if applicable
- If the Applicant is a law enforcement entity, & if compliance with TCLEOSE rules is still pending, attach a certification from TCLEOSE to indicate that the Applicant is in the process of achieving compliance with the rules (*see Form 3, Certification No. 11*).
- Attached Letters of Support (required for Regional Collaborative Projects)
- Certifications & Assurances (included in application).

## TIMELINE

August 18	Call for Projects Applications Opens
September 3	Grant Workshop (Required)
September 29	Application Submittal Deadline (4 PM)
October 2-15	Private Industry Notification /Review/Public Review Period
October 2	SWAC Review Begins
November 18	Project Presentations/Grant Recommendations
December 4	Grant Award Recommendations to ETCOG Executive Committee
December	TCEQ Review and Approval
January 2026	Grant Contracts Anticipated

# PROJECT PRESENTATIONS & SCORING

- November TBD, SWAC scoring meeting & project presentations
- 5-10 minutes per project
- Brief, concise presentation – (highlight key points, committee has already reviewed application). Make sure the person that comes to give the presentation is very familiar with the project application, the existing program, & other existing programs in your county
- Q&A with the SWAC
- SWAC will break into another room to determine project funding
- SWAC recommended projects announced
- Eligible projects may receive full or partial funding
- Eligible projects for which there is not sufficient funding may be placed on a contingency list



## TIPS

- Applicants are encouraged to submit early in case of technical difficulties
- Make sure your project is solid waste related
- How will you measure the success/effectiveness of your project. Make sure all are ready to collect data
- Additional supporting documentation (quotes, proof of estimated costs, photos, maps, plans, etc.) is strongly encouraged

## TIPS CONTINUED

- Strategic use of handouts
  - Best to include in application not at presentation (equipment etc.)
- Have a good strong summary/description
- Make sure you complete all sections
- Make sure you address all the review criteria. Answer each question clearly & concisely. Be careful not to deviate too much from the review criteria

## TIPS CONTINUED

- Know your agency's purchasing and payment process
  - Make sure that you have time for any necessary procurement, hiring or training and getting invoices paid and required proof of payments before end of contract
- Budgets should be neither obviously extravagant nor clearly inadequate
  - Be sure that the expenses requested are eligible
- Equipment costs, consider adding up to 5% to total unit cost to allow for price increases from grant application development time to actual purchase time for 2<sup>nd</sup> year projects
- Do your homework. Make sure your equipment requests match your level of need.
  - Purchase the right equipment for your job
  - Be sure that the equipment will be used for solid waste purposes 100% of the time
  - Make sure you will have time to purchase & receive the equipment during the grant period

## TIPS CONTINUED

- Consider adjusting salary requests to allow for the time necessary to recruit a new employee
- Partnerships make for a stronger application
  - Start talking with those in your group & those you will be partnering with now
- Plan ahead to ensure that all documents requiring approval are submitted with the application  
If it is not possible to obtain these documents prior to submitting the application, you must submit them when you make your presentation
- Matching funds not required but help to demonstrate commitment
- You may request that ETCOG staff conduct a preliminary review & provide comments on your draft application
  - Please make sure you allow adequate time for staff review



# QUESTIONS?

Lisa Smith  
Economic Development Manager  
903.218.6467  
[Lisa.Smith@etcog.org](mailto:Lisa.Smith@etcog.org)