

SJ 28 Recycling Worksheet

To assist the Environmental Quality Council in developing recommendations and findings and with the approval of the chairman, staff is providing this worksheet showing the study tasks outlined in SJ 28 as well as potential, draft findings for EQC consideration. The information provided is not complete and is simply provided as a starting point for EQC discussion.

Before the March EQC meeting, members are asked to **add additional findings and circle options** that they feel the EQC should discuss further. While some options would contradict one another, others can be combined. Staff also provided a few examples of recommendations or bill drafts that could be contemplated. Again, the list is not exhaustive, and EQC members are asked to develop additional ideas. Staff attempted to note programs or changes that would require financial resources.

Potential Draft Findings and Recommendations (Some options can be combined)					
Study Task	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Other
<p>Evaluate and propose potential methods for increasing the recycling rates in the state of Montana.</p>	<p>The solid waste reduction targets established in 75-10-803, MCA are adequate and provide a reasonable goal for the state.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓No change in law.</p>	<p>The solid waste reduction targets established in 75-10-803, MCA should be updated to encourage more recycling and composting.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Increase goals.</p> <p>✓Develop mandatory reporting standards to assist the DEQ in tracking recycling.\$</p> <p>✓Provide incentives for diverting construction waste from local landfills.\$</p>	<p>Montana's Integrated Waste Management Act and the associated Integrated Waste Management Plan (updated every five years) appropriately and adequately address the role of recycling in solid waste management in Montana.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓No change in law.</p>	<p>Montana's Integrated Waste Management Act and the associated Integrated Waste Management Plan should place a greater emphasis on recycling and provide more direction to communities in order to pursue recycling opportunities.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Change requirements outlining the preparation and implementation of the state solid waste management and resource recovery plan.</p>	
<p>Analyze options to address rural recycling challenges.</p>	<p>Montana's relatively small population, spread across a large geographic area, makes recycling efforts more challenging. Rural communities should work together to create increased opportunities and networks for recycling.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Increase educational opportunities provided by DEQ.\$</p> <p>✓Provide incentives to rural communities (waive certain fees, provide loans) to recycle.\$</p> <p>✓No change in law.</p>	<p>Rural communities are encouraged to investigate a variety of collection methods to promote recycling in their communities. Collection programs that target large commercial sources of recyclables (such as cardboard from the local grocery store) can generate larger volumes of materials.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Loan program for small communities to acquire equipment.\$</p> <p>✓No change in law.</p>	<p>When considering the economics of recycling, the public and local governments must recognize that recycling is part of the entire municipal solid waste management strategy and can reduce disposal costs by reducing the need for future landfill expansions.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓No change in law.</p>		
<p>Propose programs to address electronic and household hazardous waste.</p>	<p>Using existing resources and statutory direction, the DEQ is appropriately acting as a clearinghouse for information on electronic waste recycling opportunities and household hazardous waste disposal.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓No change in law.</p>	<p>Montana is not adequately addressing the need to promote the recycling of electronic and household hazardous waste. The state must do more to provide for the recycling and safe disposal of these wastes.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Additional funding to DEQ for public education program.\$</p> <p>✓Require manufacturers to register with the state and take responsibility for the collection and recycling of their electronic products.\$</p> <p>✓Develop form of take-back program administered by DEQ.\$</p>	<p>Montana supports federal efforts that guide the collection of electronic waste and provide a consistent framework for manufacturers and retailers to manage their products from "cradle to grave".</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Resolution to Congress. (See draft recycling report, page 14)</p> <p>✓No change in law.</p>		

<p>Evaluate funding alternatives.</p>	<p>Montana recognizes that each city, county, and town is unique, and there is no one right way to recycle. Montana communities are encouraged to explore opportunities for enhanced recycling and select those options that are the best fit for that community's need.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓No change in law.</p>	<p>Local waste managers are encouraged to develop garbage disposal fees based on a full-cost accounting method that estimates future costs and sets up reserves.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Require local governments of a certain size to prepare solid waste plans that address recycling, along with funding alternatives and recycling goals, and submit those plans to the DEQ.\$</p> <p>✓Require the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and the Integrated Waste Management Plan Task Force form a joint subcommittee to review solid waste fees in Montana and the pros and cons of increasing fees to assist with recycling programs. Require a report to the legislature.\$</p> <p>✓No change in law.</p>	<p>Montana encourages communities to explore the "Pay As You Throw" concept, where residents pay for solid waste based on the amount the resident throws away.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Develop state program for implementing PAYT in Montana.\$</p> <p>✓No change in law.</p>		
<p>Analyze methods to promote market development of recycled materials.</p>	<p>Montana recognizes that high transportation costs and long distances to recycling markets makes recycling of many commodities difficult. To overcome this obstacle, local markets for recyclable materials need to be established in Montana.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Grants to promote the expansion of waste reduction and recycling businesses and for research and demonstration of how waste reduction and recycling can be applied to Montana markets.\$</p> <p>✓Provide funding to the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center to be used to encourage manufacturers and commercial business owners to recycle.\$</p> <p>✓Examine the Microbusiness Development Loan program (17-6-401, MCA) and its potential for increasing recycling industries.</p> <p>✓No change in law.</p>	<p>Montana communities, including economic development entities and area chambers of commerce, are encouraged to explore opportunities for creating local markets for recycled materials, recognizing that without a market for recycled materials, there is less incentive to collect recyclables.</p> <p>Recommend: ✓Form a recycling market development advisory council within the Department of Commerce.\$</p> <p>✓No change in law.</p>			