

Meeting Minutes

WASTE DIVERSION AND RECYCLING TASK FORCE
DEQ Central Office, Bank of America Building 3rd Floor Conference Room
1111 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia
June 14, 2022

Members Present: Michael Hatfield, Tad Phillips, Robbie Pecht, Morgan Guthridge, Jim Taylor, Joe Lerch, Debbie Spiliotopoulos, Craig Coker, James Gestrich, Greg Evanylo, Jared Stoltzfus, Kenneth Dunford, Kim Hynes, Helen Lee, and Rick Galliher.

Members Absent: Kristi Rines, Mike O'Connor, Brian Sernulka, Joe Benedetto, Mitchell Smiley, John Harbin, Rob Laurent, Rhonda Russell, Dale Bennett, and Tom Benevento.

Other Attendees: Scott DeFife (alternate for Brian Sernulka), Bonnie Mahl, Katie Register, Lauren Schmitt, Gustavo Angeles, and Cristi Lawton.

DEQ Staff Attendees: Kathryn Perszyk, Craig Nicol, Janet Weyland, Sanjay Thirunagari, Gary Graham, Prina Chudasama, Melinda Woodruff, Meghann Quinn, and Sharon Baxter.

The meeting convened at 10:06 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

A quorum of task force members (or their alternates) was present for this meeting.

1. Welcome, Group Reminders [Kathryn Perszyk, DEQ; Craig Nicol; DEQ]

- a. The meeting agenda (Attachment 1), Executive Order 17 (Attachment 2), Litter Grant Program Summary (Attachment 3), and DEQ-LPR-2: Guidelines for the Virginia Litter Prevention and Recycling Grants (Attachment 4) were sent to the members prior to the meeting. Copies were available for other attendees at the meeting.
- b. Ms. Perszyk reviewed the final agenda and presented a meeting introduction (Attachment 5) that:
 - i. Reminded members of the responsibilities of participating in a public body subject to FOIA, and
 - ii. Reviewed the consensus process in the context of Task Force decision making.

2. Litter Board Recommendations [Mike O'Connor, Virginia Petroleum and Convenience Marketers Association (VPCMA) and Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board (LCRFAB); Bo Wilson and Kate Register, LCRFAB].

- a. Ms. Perszyk reminded the task force about the Senate Resolution 42 requests regarding the litter and recycling grant program (Attachment 6). Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Wilson, presenting remotely, presented a statement prepared by the Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board (Attachment 7).
- b. Discussion of the statement:
 - i. The 1100% return on funds invested represents the matching funds allocated by localities beyond the \$1.8-2.4 million investment that DEQ makes.
 - ii. A question was asked about how Virginia compared to other states for litter funding. The LCRFAB doesn't look at others states, but it was stated that Virginia is 28% below the other states; most states do not have a litter fund.
 - iii. Board is not saying that no funding/program improvements are needed. Litter Board is accomplishing its goals using the funds provided.

- iv. Ms. Register will look into other mechanisms of other revenue sources, such as litter abatement fees.

3. Facilitated Discussion & Group Recommendations [Kathryn Perszyk, Craig Nicol, Janet Weyland].

- a. Ms. Perszyk presented top ranking items regarding litter grant improvements from the first meeting's brainstorm, as well as specific feedback previously provided from the Hampton Roads Planning District Committee (Attachment 8)
- b. Facilitated Discussion.
 - i. Make the tax for the fund proportional to the store/industry/facility size.
 - ii. Allow grants the flexibility to address unforeseen events (e.g., inflation, diesel shortages, pandemic) to improve resiliency and allow emergency funding.
 - iii. Specify that tax or fees and increases to go to the litter fund.
 - iv. Be creative in finding additional ways can you add to the fund besides the drink tax, e.g., boxes and bags.
 - v. Find a way to collect and provide the data for the program benefits and what litter are being prevented, e.g., better data that accounts for the types of litter, its value and volume, toward calculating how much reduction has occurred
 - vi. Look at the entire program system and find ways to deal with additional recycling issues such as dumpster hygiene, shopping carts in the stream; etc.
 - vii. Increase the tire disposal fee and ensure that it is used for tire management.
 - viii. Verify (and enforce) that fast food restaurants pay the litter/container tax.
 - ix. More emphasis on food waste recycling and composting, either through the litter or a separate fund and educational means.
 - x. Give more emphasis on Electric Vehicle battery disposal, safety, and hazardous effects on groundwater before it becomes an emergency.

4. Executive Order 17 (EO17) – Encouraging Recycling Related Businesses to locate in Virginia [Kathryn Perszyk, DEQ]. Ms. Perszyk provided an overview of Governor Youngkin's EO17 (Attachment 9) and reviewed its request of the Task Force. Industry representatives on the Task Force were invited to share their recommendations to encourage new recycling related businesses, including collection, processing and manufacturing facilities, to locate in the Commonwealth.

- a. Presentation on glass: [Scott DeFife, Glass Packaging Institute].
 - i. Establish locations where source separation of glass occurs and help move it; then transport glass to a processing facility within 50 miles of aggregation;
 - ii. Size the processing facilities properly; see how much glass is collected and then determine how large of a facility you would need for that region.
 - iii. Pursue grants: EPA is putting out for grants for glass recycling; another education grant coming from the Fed govt. as well.
 - iv. Collect glass in a different way to improve the 25-50% non-glass residue in the loads from VA.
 - v. Policy, siting, and permitting assistance is needed from the State.

- b. Presentation on MRF recycling [Tad Phillips, Virginia Waste Industries Association].
 - i. Single stream recycling is the most efficient way to get the recyclables.
 - ii. A critical mass is necessary - if you don't have critical mass of material collected for recycling, then it is not economical to build a processing facility. Rural areas and multi-family areas (apartments) need other solutions.
 - iii. Processing has to be scalable to the volume available, which is also an urban versus rural issue.
 - iv. Contamination is not necessarily a bad thing; it can be anticipated and the necessary processing technology can be built into the facility.
 - v. Virginia needs to provide economic development and the information necessary to locate existing MRFs and site new ones.
 - vi. Virginia should provide incentives for packages proposed by Economic Development;
- c. Task Force EO17 recommendations [Kathryn Perszyk, DEQ].
 - i. Ms. Perszyk offered a summary of actions proposed by Task Force members for meeting the EO17 tasking (Attachment 10).
 - ii. Ms. Perszyk also offered an example of proposal topics, and acknowledged that all topics are not yet represented on the slide, e.g., food waste and various non-traditional recycling such as EV batteries and solar panels, among others (Attachment 11).
 - iii. More discussion and a decision is needed on how to respond to the EO17 tasking. One more meeting is all the time left to respond to the EO17 tasking and to discuss the task force report that will be drafted before the next meeting.

5. WDRTF Report [Kathryn Perszyk, DEQ; Craig Coker, Jared Stoltzfus].

- a. Ms. Perszyk provided an overview of the report template (Attachment 12) that had been provided earlier to Mr. Coker and Mr. Stoltzfus, who had volunteered at the last meeting to be the primary authors of the Task Force's Report. Ms. Perszyk walked the members through the report template.
- b. Discussion:
 - i. Recognize that minutes of all meeting, including all attachments, will be included in the appendices to the report.
 - ii. The report needs to be able to capture the passion level of the task force.
 - iii. The need for additional funding needs to be included in the report
 - iv. A tight Executive Summary will be needed that includes the Task Force's recommendations.
 - v. A recommendation as to whether or not the Task Force should be continued should be included. There are other things in the legislative tasking that have not been discussed yet
 - vi. Does Virginia need to contract out a concentrated survey more detailed focus or analysis through a contractor?

6. Next Steps & Future Meetings [Craig Nicol and Janet Weyland, DEQ].

- a. Timeline requirements and limitations:

- i. Report has to go to DEQ Policy by September 15.
 - ii. Need a report draft distributed to the task force August 1.
 - iii. Need to have meeting 4 of the Task Force in the mid-August timeframe, to review, discuss and edit the draft as a group in order to give the DEQ facilitators the necessary time to fine tune the report by their September 15 deadline.
 - iv. Must have a quorum (at least 13 members) at that August meeting in order to make those decisions.
 - v. The week of August 17 is a recycling conference, so that week is not a candidate for a meeting.
- b. Other Considerations
- i. A decision is needed as to whether to recommend that the Task Force should be continued. If so, goals for those meetings need to be included in this report.
 - ii. Need more information on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs for this report. Send information to Gary Graham (or his designee after August 1) for distribution to Mr. Coker and Mr. Stolzfus.
- c. EPR Summary [Scott DeFife, Glass Packaging Institute]. Mr. DeFife provided an overview of extended producer responsibility, and talked about the programs established for packaging materials in Oregon, Maine, and Colorado.

Attachments:

1. Agenda
2. Executive Order 17
3. Litter Grant Program Summary
4. DEQ-LPR-2: Guidelines for the Virginia Litter Prevention and Recycling Grants
5. Introduction Presentation
6. Litter Grant Program Introduction
7. Litter Control & Recycling Grant Program Advisory Board Memo
8. Litter Grant Program Feedback
9. Executive Order 17 Introduction
10. Executive Order 17 Feedback from Task Force Members (table)
11. Executive Order 17 Feedback Categorization
12. Task Force Report Overview

**WASTE DIVERSION AND RECYCLING TASK FORCE
Bank of America Building 3rd Floor Conference Room
1111 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia**

June 14, 2022

- 10:00** **Welcome, Group Reminders**
Kathryn Perszyk / Craig Nicol
- 10:15** **Litter Board Recommendations**
Mike O'Connor, Virginia Petroleum and Convenience Marketers Association &
Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board Member
- 10:30** **Facilitated Discussion & Group Recommendations**
Craig Nicol / Janet Weyland
- 11:15** **EO17 – Encouraging Recycling Related Businesses to locate in Virginia**
[Executive Order 17: Recognizing the Value of Recycling & Waste Reduction](#)
Kathryn Perszyk / Invited Speakers
- 11:45** **LUNCH BREAK (on your own)**
- 1:00** **Extended Facilitated Discussion & Group Recommendations**
Craig Nicol / Janet Weyland
- 2:15** **WDRTF Report**
Kathryn Perszyk / Craig Coker & Jared Stoltzfus
- 3:45** **Next Steps & Future Meetings**
Craig Nicol / Janet Weyland
- 4:00** **ADJOURN**

Executive Order 17



*Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of the Governor*

Executive Order

NUMBER SEVENTEEN (2022)

RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor, I hereby issue this Executive Order to recognize the value of recycling, to help create new clean technology jobs, and to help stop food waste.

Importance of the Initiative

Americans today recycle less than they did a generation ago, yet there are more opportunities for post-consumer recycled products than ever before. Recycling and reuse activities account for over 750,000 jobs nationwide. Food waste comprises the single largest category of waste by volume disposed of in landfills. We need to conserve our natural resources, reduce the amount of recyclable materials and waste that goes into landfills, and promote new clean energy jobs here in Virginia. Recognizing and promoting the importance of recycling has the potential to positively impact the Commonwealth's environment, providing cleaner air and water, as well as create new clean technology jobs.

Directive

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth, and pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of Virginia and the laws of the Commonwealth, I hereby order my administration to take the following actions to address our ideals of environmental stewardship:

1. Recognition of the Value of Recyclable Material

A. State Agency Initiative to Encourage Recycling

It is the policy of the Commonwealth, and all executive branch state agencies, including state institutions of higher education, and their concessioners (Agency or Agencies) to increase awareness of the importance of recycling and better capture recyclable material, as well as encourage the use of post-consumer recycled (PCR) products and biodegradable materials.

In accordance with the State Agency Recycling Initiative, employees of the Commonwealth should be notified of the recyclable material collection areas, including, but not limited to, newspapers, office papers, corrugated boxes, folding cartons, glass containers, plastic bottles, plastic containers, plastic film, and metal cans through clearly visible signage posted in recyclable material collection areas. The signage should include information regarding the value of waste diversion.

It shall be the official responsibility of Agencies to work with the Department of General Services, or building property owners and local waste management companies and recycling facilities, as appropriate, to ensure access to recycling programs that accept all Agency collected materials. .

B. Virginia State Parks Plan

The Department of Conservation and Recreation, shall report to the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources with an assessment plan for a Virginia State Parks Campaign in accordance with the State Agency Recycling Initiative to determine the necessary resources to increase the capacity to capture recyclable materials, including increasing the recycling receptacles in Virginia's State Parks and necessary requests for resources to implement the Virginia State Parks Plan. The campaign should be developed in partnership with the Virginia Green Travel Alliance to promote the parks' recycling initiatives to the public.

2. Making Virginia Home to New Clean Technologies

A. The Waste Diversion and Recycling Task Force shall discuss ways to encourage new recycling related businesses, including collection, processing and manufacturing facilities, to locate in the Commonwealth and include any recommendations in their next report.

B. Within 12 months the Department of Environmental Quality, in conjunction with the Department of Commerce and other stakeholders as appropriate, will produce a report outlining opportunities for attracting PCR product business entities to the Commonwealth. The report shall identify:

1. The waste-stream requirements for PCR companies to locate within the Commonwealth.
2. Identify incentives offered to PCR companies in other States and identify feasible options in the Commonwealth.

3. Identify potential geographic areas within the Commonwealth to focus on new clean technology business development, with particular emphasis in rural areas.

3. Stopping Food Waste

Food waste is the single largest substance by volume sent to solid waste sites across Virginia and the United States. While Virginia families are struggling to put food on the table and our farmers are struggling to feed their livestock and fertilize their crops we must divert this waste stream to benefit people and farmers in need.

The Department of Environmental Quality in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall work in partnership with large-scale suppliers of food such as food manufacturers, grocery retailers, sports arenas, schools, hotels and banquet facilities to identify appropriate strategies to reduce food waste in their respective sectors by encouraging donations to needy individuals, food for animals or for composting purposes.

4. Annual Report to Increase Transparency

The Department of General Services shall catalog the metric tonnage of the state's recycling program and establish goals by December 31, 2022 for each succeeding year for state agency recycling through 2025.

The Department shall report to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources Committee and the Senate Agriculture, Conservation, and Natural Resources of the progress of the State Agency Recycling Initiative by no later than December 1, 2022, and each succeeding year.

5. Exclusions

Nothing in this Order shall restrict any Agency from using any items as necessary to respond to any executive action declaring a state of emergency or order of public health emergency that would otherwise be restricted in use by this Order.

This Executive Order rescinds and replaces Executive Order No. 77 (2021) issued by Governor Ralph S. Northam.

Effective Date

This Executive Order shall be effective upon its signing and shall remain in full force and effect unless amended or rescinded by further executive order.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia this 7th day of April 2022.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Glenn Youngkin".

Glenn Youngkin, Governor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kay Coles James".

Kay Coles James
Secretary of the Commonwealth

Litter Grant Program Summary



LITTER GRANT PROGRAM

DEQ awards non-competitive and competitive grants to Virginia localities for local litter prevention and recycling program implementation activities.

Non-Competitive Litter Grants:

Since 1980, non-competitive litter grants have been awarded annually to localities for litter prevention and recycling program implementation, continuation and/or expansion. The grant program awards are based on population and road miles. All Virginia localities are eligible if they have eligible litter prevention and/or recycling program. The grant applications are due to DEQ by June 30th each year. The accounting and performance reports for the grant awarded in the preceding year are due by August 1st each year.

An eligible program must include at least two of the following elements to have a comprehensive program:

- planning and organization,
- recycling,
- youth education,
- cleanups,
- law enforcement,
- public communication,
- Adopt-A locality-sponsored programs.

To date, Virginia businesses, who pay into the Litter Control and Recycling Fund, have contributed over \$67 million to support those local government litter control and recycling programs. The amount of funds available for this grant program is approximately 90% of the net resources allocated for the Litter Fund. This grant funding is to be used primarily for educational activities that support anti-littering and pro-recycling efforts. Towns usually receive the smallest grant amount in an approximate range of \$800 to \$1,000.

For the 2021 grant year (same as fiscal year), \$1,708,156 was disbursed among 187 applicants.

Competitive Litter Grants:

Since 2017, competitive litter grants have been awarded to Virginia localities for a variety of litter prevention and recycling projects. All localities currently receiving the non-competitive litter grant are eligible to apply for the competitive litter grant. The competitive grant funds can be used for developing and implementing statewide and regional litter prevention and recycling educational programs and special/pilot projects. The competitive grant applications are due to DEQ by July 15th each year. The accounting and performance reports for the grants awarded in the preceding year are due by August 1st each year. The grant applications are reviewed by the Litter Control and Fund Advisory Board and the recommendations are submitted to DEQ for final approval.

The amount of funds available for this grant program is approximately 5% of the net resources allocated for the Litter Fund. For the 2021 grant year, \$95,035 was disbursed among 13 localities.

Note: This summary is intended for the purpose of the Waste Diversion & Recycling Task Force. This summary does not represent the full program details.

DEQ Summary Report:

DEQ provides an annual summary report on the litter grant to the public and stakeholders. This report summarizes the litter prevention and recycling program expenses and activities conducted in the previous fiscal year by the local government recipients of the annual litter and recycling grants.

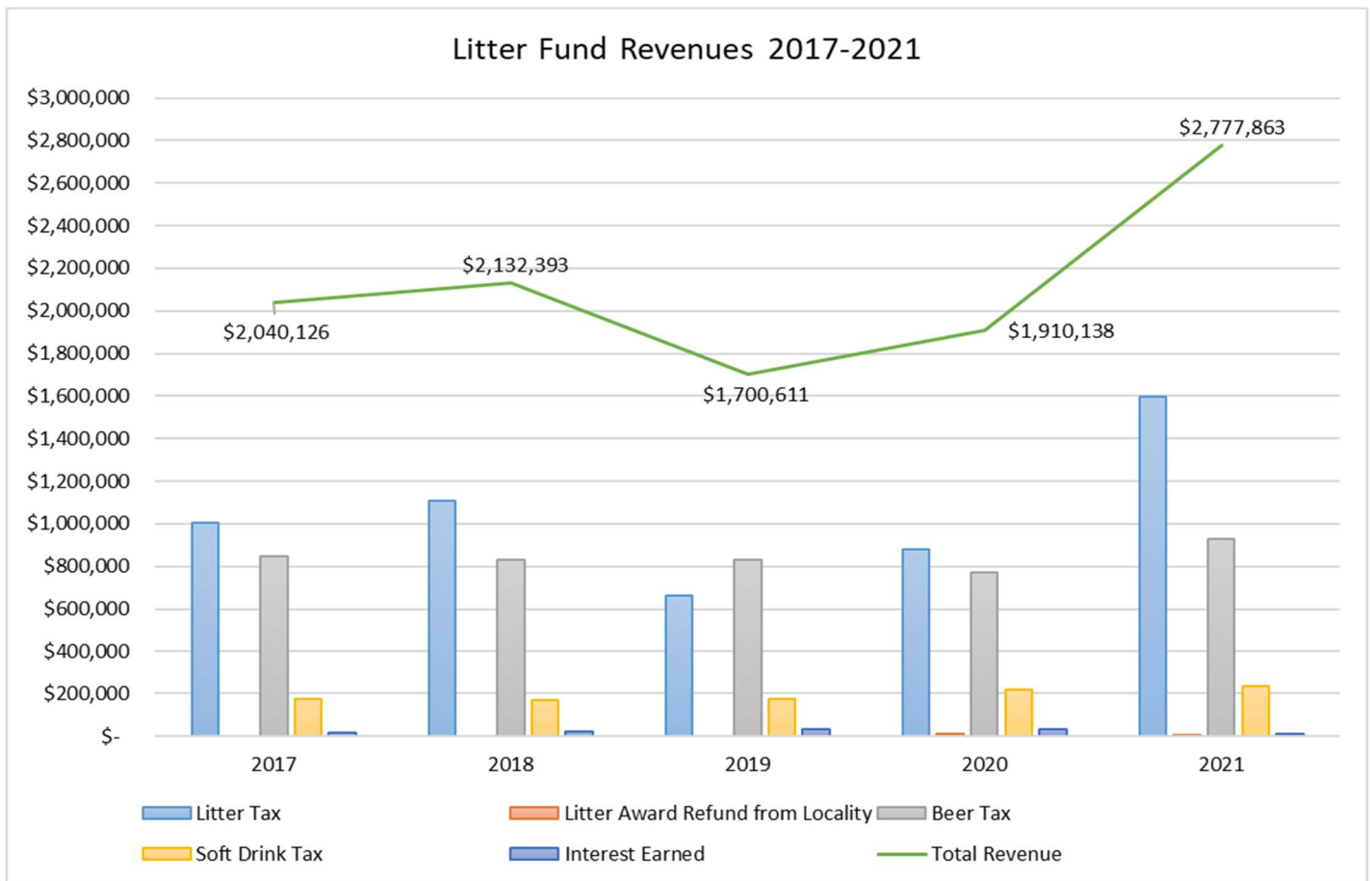
Litter Control and Fund Advisory Board:

The Litter Control and Fund Advisory Board is appointed by the Governor and consists of five members as follows: one representative for each of the three types of entities required to pay the litter taxes, one local litter or recycling coordinator and one member from the general public. The Litter Control and Fund Board meets annually to track the status of the Fund and the progress of the annual grant programs.

Litter Control and Recycling Fund & Changes:

The Code of Virginia provides for the following annual litter taxes to be collected and deposited in an interest earning account - the Litter Control and Recycling Trust Fund (Fund). Figure 1 below shows the litter fund revenues from 2017 to 2021.

Figure 1: Litter Fund Revenues from 2017 and 2021



Note: This summary is intended for the purpose of the Waste Diversion & Recycling Task Force. This summary does not represent the full program details.

The 2021 General Assembly made changes to the [statute](#) and added a requirement for operation of public information campaigns to discourage the sale and use of expanded polystyrene products and to promote alternatives to expanded polystyrene. Also, statutory changes were made to fund the public information campaign by allowing use of litter funds up to a maximum of five percent.

- **Litter Control and Recycling Fund (Section 10.1-1422.01)** - Provides formula for allocation of funds, amended by legislation in 2008 and effective July 1, 2009.
- **Litter Tax (Section 58.1-1707)** - \$20 per year for each location of manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors or retailers of consumer products and an additional \$30 per year, per location where groceries, soft drinks and beer are sold.
- **Excise Tax on Soft Drinks (Section 58.1-1702)** - A gross-receipts tax on wholesalers.
- **Excise Tax on Beer and Wine Coolers (Section 4.1-235 & 4.1-236)** - 2% of the taxes collected go to the Fund.

Information Links:

- Litter Grant Online Application: <https://portal.deq.virginia.gov/>
- Statute: <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title10.1/chapter14/section10.1-1422.01/>
- DEQ Litter Grant Guidelines:
https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=C:\TownHall\docroot\GuidanceDocs\440\GDoc_DEQ_282_v5.pdf
- GY2020 Annual Performance and Accounting Summary Report available at:
<https://www.deq.virginia.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/8257/637680040846072667>

Note: This summary is intended for the purpose of the Waste Diversion & Recycling Task Force. This summary does not represent the full program details.

DEQ-LPR-2: Guidelines for the Virginia Litter Prevention and Recycling Grants

Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Environmental Quality

**SUBJECT: Division of Land Protection & Revitalization Guidance
Document No. DEQ-LPR-2 — GUIDELINES FOR THE VIRGINIA
LITTER PREVENTION AND RECYCLING GRANTS**

**TO: Applicants Receiving Litter Prevention & Recycling Grants – Virginia
Localities**

FROM: Kathryn Perszyk 
Director, Land Protection & Revitalization Division

DATE: March 17, 2022

Summary: The Code of Virginia, § 10.1-1422.04, directs DEQ to award grants to localities that apply for local litter prevention and recycling grants and meet the eligibility requirements established in the Department's Guidelines for Litter Prevention and Recycling Grants (DEQ-LPR-2).

The Guidelines were updated to include the funding per § 10.1-1422.01 for the operation of public information campaigns to discourage the sale and use of expanded polystyrene (EPS) products. The updated Guidelines were approved by the Litter Fund Board at their December 2021 public meeting.

Electronic Copy: Once effective, an electronic copy of this guidance will be available on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall under the Department of Environmental Quality at <https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/gdocs.cfm?boardid=53>

Contact Information: Please contact Sanjay Thirunagari at (804) 659-1532 or sanjay.thirunagari@deq.virginia.gov with any questions regarding the application of this guidance.

Certification: As required by Subsection B of § 2.2-4002.1 of the APA, the agency certifies that this guidance document conforms to the definition of a guidance document in § 2.2-4101 of the Code of Virginia.

Disclaimer: *This document is provided as guidance and, as such, set forth standard operation procedures for the agency. However, it does not mandate or prohibit any particular action not otherwise required or prohibited by law or regulation. If alternative proposals are made, such proposals will be reviewed and accepted or denied based on their technical adequacy and compliance with appropriate laws and regulations.*



GUIDELINES FOR THE VIRGINIA LITTER PREVENTION AND RECYCLING GRANTS (DEQ-LPR-2)

Note: Section 1 includes the current guidelines for DEQ non-competitive grants, Section 2 for competitive grants, and Section 3 for the operation of public information campaigns to discourage the sale and use of expanded polystyrene products.

Funding is available to Virginia localities from the Litter Prevention and Recycling Fund as non-competitive grants based on population and road miles, *if* the locality has an eligible program as identified in Section I.B and C below.

These grants are provided by funds generated by taxes enacted under Section 58.1-1700 to 58.1-1710 of the Code of Virginia and through authority granted to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) under Section 10.1-1422 of the Code of Virginia. These guidelines supersede all previous regulations and guidelines relating to these grant funds.

1. **DEQ NON-COMPETITIVE GRANTS:**

I. **ELIGIBILITY**

- A. All cities, counties, and incorporated towns in Virginia are eligible if they have eligible litter prevention and/or recycling program.
- B. An eligible program must include at least **two** elements of a **comprehensive program**. The elements of a comprehensive program are:
 - i. Planning and Organization
 - ii. Recycling
 - iii. Youth Education
 - iv. Cleanups
 - v. Law Enforcement
 - vi. Public Communication
 - vii. "Adopt-A" Programs sponsored by the locality
- C. An eligible program may also include any of the non-disposal elements of waste management (source reduction, reuse, and recycling) in the locality's approved Solid Waste Management Plan. Procurement of recycled goods may also be included.
- D. All completed forms must be received by their corresponding deadlines by DEQ for grants to be paid. Non-competitive litter grant applications for the upcoming grant year are due by **June 30th** of the current year. Non-competitive litter grant accounting and performance reports for funds awarded in the preceding year are due by **August 1st** of the current year.
- E. Localities may apply singly or as a participant in a Cooperative Program. A Cooperative Program consists of two or more localities joining together and combining grant funds to implement one program. One application form is submitted for the Cooperative Program by a Coordinating Agency, which may be one of the participating localities or a non-governmental

agency. The Coordinating Agency submits an executed original application that lists each participating locality. Also, the Coordinating Agency will be responsible for submitting the required Performance and Accounting Report on behalf of the participating localities.

- F. For Cooperative Programs among units of local governments only, the Coordinating Agency shall affirm that a written Agreement with each participating locality is on file. Such Agreement shall expressly authorize the Coordinating Agency to apply on behalf of each participating locality.
- G. For Cooperative Programs implemented by a non-governmental agency, the Coordinating Agency shall include, in addition to the Application, written evidence that the Coordinating Agency is acting for and accepting funds on behalf of each participating locality. This evidence shall include one of the following:
 - i. copies of the Agreements that originally established the Coordinating Agency by the participating local governments;
 - ii. signature by each locality's manager on the Application form itself; or,
 - iii. any other applicable documentation which indicates the localities' desire for the non-governmental agency to accept funding and provide services on their behalf.
- H. Applications shall be submitted by individual authorized to request such funding and who is responsible for documenting its use in support of the litter prevention and recycling program efforts. For individual locality applications, this is the County Administrator, City Manager, or Town Manager. For Coordinating Agencies that are non-governmental, the application shall be signed by the Coordinating Agency's Executive Director, and include documentation specified in II.G above.
- I. Application forms must include the correct Federal Identification Number (FIN) and Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) numbers for the locality designated to receive the grant amount. Application forms for Cooperative Programs must include only the FIN and FIPS numbers of the Coordinating Agency. Missing or incorrect FIN or FIPS numbers on the Grant Application form may result in a delay in awarding the grant amount.

II. FUNDING PROCESS

- A. The grant amount will be sent directly to each locality. For localities participating in a Cooperative Program, the total grant amount will be sent directly to the Coordinating Agency designated on the application form. Notifications of the award will be sent electronically to the authorized Signatory on the grant application unless another email address is provided.
- B. Any unexpended funds at the end of the previous grant year will be deducted from the new grant amount that is to be awarded in the current grant year.
- C. If a locality receives money from a previous year but does not submit a Performance Report and an Accounting Report, the Fund Board may request that DEQ submit an invoice to those localities for their unreported funds.
- D. Funds will not be released/awarded to the locality/applicant unless a completed Performance Report and Accounting Report for the previous grant program year is submitted by the proper authority, and accepted by DEQ.

- E. Awards will be processed out as funds are released to DEQ by the Treasurer. This occurs after the close of the Commonwealth's Fiscal Year, and reconciliations by the Treasurer. Until the funds are released, no grant payments can be processed. Grants are typically awarded beginning in September of each year.

III. AUTHORIZED USES OF FUNDS

- A. The grant shall be used for litter prevention and recycling program implementation, continuation, and/or expansion. Authorized uses of the grant funds include:
 - 1. Salaries, wages, or other personnel costs
 - 2. Office supplies, postage, telephone
 - 3. Printing and program materials
 - 4. Travel expenses
 - 5. Locally conducted meetings, workshops, and awards
 - 6. Audiovisual material on litter or recycling
 - 7. Equipment such as: educational, litter receptacles, recycling, source reduction and reuse equipment, audiovisual, safety, and the renting of such equipment
 - 8. Award materials
 - 9. Cleanup supplies
 - 10. Annual dues for solid waste related associations (Maximum cap of \$100)
 - 11. Litter collection and/or recycling collection contracts
 - 12. Solid Waste Disposal fees, fuel, and transportation ONLY ASSOCIATED with a volunteer cleanup

B. Grant Fund Expense Categories:

- 1. Salary, Wages, and Fringe Benefits
- 2. Supplies
- 3. Contractual Services
- 4. Travel
- 5. Other

The non-competitive litter prevention and recycling grant funds are to be used ONLY to support the educational activities of the litter and recycling programs in the localities. Funding is to be used for educational activities that support anti-littering and pro-recycling efforts. Purchasing equipment such as computers, cell phones, desks, etc. is no longer permissible because it is possible for this type of equipment to be used to support programs other than just the litter and recycling program. If a litter program manager wants to spend funding in a way that is not addressed by the guidelines, or he/she believes that a purchase should be justifiable as an essential supply; he/she may contact DEQ. DEQ will consider the request and will inform the locality on the decision.

Salary, Wages and Fringe Benefits: Money paid to support the litter and recycling program managers.

Essential Supplies: Includes office supplies, postage and telephone expenses necessary to administer the program, premiums to promote the litter and recycling program. Essential supplies can include litter and recycling materials and supplies such as litter grabbers, trash can liners and lids, premiums and any other expendable supplies used solely in the litter and recycling program that are deemed as essential for educating the

public about litter prevention and recycling. Non-essential items such as food, t-shirts, ponchos, etc. are **not** considered essential and the grant funds may not be used for non-essential items. Trash cans and recycling bins may be purchased if they are part of your anti-littering campaign and they serve to educate the public as to how and where to appropriately dispose of litter.

Contractual Services: Funding to support the litter and recycling program. Includes contracts to groups/individuals/businesses for conducting litter cleanups, household hazardous waste day collections, tire amnesty programs, arrangements made with groups to conduct litter cleanups or sorting of recycling. Contractual services may include payments for school programs such as assemblies with litter and recycling themes and payment for printing educational materials. Although the litter and recycling money cannot be used for payment of ongoing waste disposal fees; if the waste disposal fee is directly related to a volunteer litter cleanup, the money may be used for the disposal of the collected litter. Contractual Services may also include the rental of backhoes or dump trucks in association with volunteer litter cleanups only.

Travel: Includes registration for litter and recycling conferences and workshops including mileage, lodging and meals. All travel related expenditures are required to meet state guidelines. Refer to the state guidelines for reimbursable mileage rates for use of vehicles.

Other: Any other expenses associated with the litter and recycling program that are allowable in the guidelines. For questions about whether or not an item may or may not be included; contact the litter prevention and recycling grant coordinator at (804) 698-4000 or at va-landr@deq.virginia.gov.

IV. UNAUTHORIZED USES OF GRANT FUNDS

Grant funds shall not be used for the following:

- A. Meals associated with award events. Applicants are encouraged to use other sources of funds for such purposes.
- B. Purchase of mass media time or space over \$500.
- C. For any project or item not directly related to litter prevention or recycling, including (but not limited to):
 1. Beautification projects, landscaping, purchase of trees or shrubs, or lawn services.
 2. Purchase of equipment for lawn maintenance or for collection, transportation, and disposal of solid waste.

V. GENERAL ACCOUNTABILITY: PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTING REPORTS

The Applicant shall keep accounting records for the grant funds. A [Performance Report](#) (electronically via Survey Monkey) and an [Accounting Report](#) (via mail) for the previous grant program year shall be submitted to **DEQ no later than August 1st**. Subsequent grants shall not be approved until the Performance Report and Accounting Report Form for the previous grant program year have been received by DEQ. **The Performance Report and Accounting Report must be signed by the County Administrator, City Manager, Town Manager or the locality's or Coordinating Agency's Chief Financial Officer.** For a non-governmental agency, the Performance Report and Accounting Report form shall be signed by the agency's Executive Director or Chief Financial Officer.

VI. RETURN OF GRANT FUNDS

Funds not used or accounted for in compliance with these Guidelines and the Application shall be returned by the Applicant to DEQ. A locality participating in a Cooperative Program shall be liable for its pro rata share of the total liability.

2. DEQ COMPETITIVE GRANTS:

I. ELIGIBILITY

- i. All cities, counties, and incorporated towns in Virginia are eligible if they receive the DEQ litter prevention and recycling non-competitive grant.
- ii. An eligible program must use the funds to develop and implement statewide and regional litter prevention and recycling educational programs and pilot projects.
- iii. The grant applications will be reviewed by the Board and its recommendation will be submitted to the Director of DEQ for final approval.

II. FUNDING PROCESS

- A. The amount of the funds available for this grant program is expected to be 5% of the net resources allocated for the Litter Control and Recycling Fund (Fund).
- B. Grants will be awarded annually following the distribution of the tax money to the Fund.
- C. Each recipient will receive 100% of the awarded amount from DEQ, following the announcement of the grant being awarded.

III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINE

- A. Use only the DEQ grant application form.
- B. All applications must be postmarked by **July 15th** of the current year.
- C. The tentative date for the announcement of the applications approved for funding is November 15th or earlier.

IV. UNAUTHORIZED USES OF GRANT FUNDS

Grant funds shall not be used for the following:

- A. Purchase of mass media time or space over \$500.
- B. Leasing or building any real estate.
- C. Salary and wages.

V. PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTING REPORTS

- A. The Applicant shall keep performance and accounting records for the grant funds used.
- B. At the end of the project, the Final Performance Report and Accounting Report shall be submitted to DEQ no later than **August 1st** of the current year.

- C. The Performance Report and Accounting Report must both be signed by the County Administrator, City Manager, Town Manager or the locality's or Coordinating Agency's Chief Financial Officer. For a non-governmental agency, the Performance Report and Accounting Report form shall be signed by the agency's Executive Director or Chief Financial Officer.
- D. All remaining unspent competitive grant funds at the end of the previous grant year will be will be deducted from future non-competitive grants.

3. FUNDING FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS:

Funding for the operation of public information campaigns to discourage the sale and use of expanded polystyrene products.

I. ELIGIBILITY

- i. The 2021 General Assembly allocated up to 5% of the net resources allocated for the Litter Control and Recycling Fund (Fund) for the operation of public information campaigns to discourage the sale and use of expanded polystyrene products and to promote alternatives to expanded polystyrene in the Commonwealth.
- ii. Localities applying for the non-competitive litter grant and opting to implement this campaign will receive additional funds for this purpose. The campaign should be targeted to achieve the goals and work with the food vendors in accordance with Section 10.1-1424.3 of code of Virginia.

II. REPORTING

Localities shall provide the status on the public information campaign along with the other information as part of the non-competitive litter grant reporting.

4. SUBMISSION

Mail completed forms to:

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Litter Prevention and Recycling Grants Program
P.O. Box 1105
Richmond, VA 23218

For Certified Mail, send completed forms to:

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Litter Prevention and Recycling Grants Program
1111 East Main Street, Suite 1400
Richmond, VA 23219

For more information, contact the DEQ litter prevention and recycling grant coordinator at **(804)698-4000** or via email at va-landr@deq.virginia.gov.

Please contact DEQ before the deadline if you have questions.

Revision Date: March 2022

Introduction Presentation



Waste Diversion & Recycling Task Force Meeting 3

Kathryn J. Perszyk
Director, Land Protection & Revitalization Division
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
June 14, 2022

Agenda

10:00 Welcome, Group Reminders

Kathryn Perszyk / Craig Nicol

10:15 Litter Board Recommendations

Mike O'Connor, Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board Member

10:30 Facilitated Discussion & Group Recommendations

Craig Nicol / Janet Weyland

11:15 EO17 – Encouraging Recycling Related Businesses to locate in Virginia

Kathryn Perszyk / Invited Speakers

11:45 LUNCH BREAK (on your own)

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DEQ

Agenda (afternoon)

1:00 Extended Facilitated Discussion & Group Recommendations

Craig Nicol / Janet Weyland

2:15 WDRTF Report

Kathryn Perszyk / Craig Coker & Jared Stoltzfus

3:45 Next Steps & Future Meetings

Craig Nicol / Janet Weyland

4:00 ADJOURN

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DEQ

WDRTF = Public Body

- All meetings of the group are public meetings, subject to FOIA
- TF goal is to reach a *consensus* on recommendations
- *Consensus* is defined as a willingness of each member of a group to be able to say that he or she can live with the decisions reached and will not actively work against them outside of the process

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DEQ

Litter Grant Program Introduction

Litter Board Recommendations

Mike O'Connor

Bo Wilson

Katie Register

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SJ42: Litter Control & Recycling Fund Grant Program

- Potential improvements in goals and efficiency of the grant program
- Advisable amendments to 10.1-1422.01 and 10.1-1422.04
- Allocation formula:
 - Codifying and increasing the % of grants awarded to localities on a competitive basis **[currently 5%]**
 - Reallocating funds for funding regional recycling programs,
 - Additional grants for educational programs,
 - Imposing constraints on amount of funds used for personnel salaries and wages,
 - Funding for additional collection points for recyclables
 - Other?

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DEQ

Litter Control & Recycling Grant Program Advisory Board Memo

TO: Waste Diversion and Recycling Taskforce

FROM: Bo Wilson
Chairman, Litter Control Recycling Fund Advisory Board

DATE: May 20, 2022

RE: **Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board Annual Report**

Members of the Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board wanted you to have the attached copy of our most recent "Annual Performance and Accounting Summary Report."

We are extremely proud of what our report shows. Some highlights include:

- 305 localities participating in the program
- Over an 1100% return on the funds invested
- 3400 cleanup efforts
- Almost 32,000 volunteers involved
- Youth programs
- Public education

The Board feels as though our program is working positively and is appropriately funded to execute its objectives.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the DEQ staff which handles our program or to the Board members for additional information.

Litter Grant Program Feedback

Original Brainstorm Top Ranking Items

Create Grant Subcategories

- Food waste prevention, Compost & AD Grants
- Deconstruction Grant Program

Increase Funding

- Examine Other State Grant Sources
- Integrate Federal BIL / IJA Funding

Tires

- Increase Tire Disposal Fee

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DEQ

HRPDC Beautification & Recycling Committee Feedback

- Noncompetitive grant awards are insufficient to cover programming needed to meet recycling goals and objectives
- Greater flexibility in how noncompetitive funds may be used
- Allow regional bodies to serve as an applicant / recipient for competitive grants
- Allow localities to submit for an individual competitive grant if they are also part of a regional competitive grant application
- Provide greater support and resources for waste that is difficult to dispose of (e.g., e-waste)

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DEQ

Executive Order 17 Introduction

EO17: Recognizing the Value of Recycling & Waste Reduction

Scott DeFife, Glass Packaging Institute
Tad Phillips, TFC Recycling, VWIA Representative

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Executive Order No. 17

- Recognizing the Value of Recycling & Waste Reduction
 - Recognition of the Value of Recycling
 - Making Virginia Home to New Clean Technologies
 - Stopping Food Waste
 - Annual Report to Increase Transparency (about state agency recycling)
- Rescinded Northam's EO77 – single use plastics

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DEQ

Executive Order No. 17

Making Virginia Home to New Clean Technologies

The Waste Diversion and Recycling Task Force shall discuss ways to encourage new recycling related businesses, including collection, processing and manufacturing facilities, to locate in the Commonwealth and include any recommendations in their next report.

Executive Order 17 Feedback from Task Force Members

WDRTF Suggestions RE EO17 – Encouraging Recycling Businesses to Locate in Virginia

<p>Support Needed to Promote the Benefits of Single Stream Recycling Programs. The Commonwealth should consider providing incentives to municipalities and regional planning units to attract single stream recycling service providers in areas not currently served. This could also be an opportunity for manufacturers of packaging and end-users of recycled materials to participate in promotion of single stream recycling throughout the state by providing grant money to help localities jump-start programs. Too many packaging companies are in a race to show their products are “recyclable”, confusing residents and encouraging “wishful” recycling. For example, about 95% of all post-consumer plastic bottles are either PET (#1) or HDPE (#2). Producers and manufacturers of the other #3 to #7 plastic containers thus account for the other 5%, meaning there is not enough critical mass to make these materials economic to recover, and end-user markets are scarce. While EO17 is promoting the availability of recycling at state facilities and institutions, the messaging should focus on the materials end-users want, those who meet the critical mass concept.</p>
<p>Virginia Needs to Become a Leader in Glass Recycling Capacity. Glass by weight makes up around 16% to 20% of the single stream materials collected in residential recycling programs. Currently only a handful of MRF’s actually recycle glass in Virginia, and most MRF glass is disposed as residue or used as “daily cover” in landfills, which under DEQ regulations qualifies as “recycling” for the purpose of meeting the state-mandated recycling rate. Virginia has two glass manufacturing facilities which cannot get enough recycled cullet (the term for beneficiated MRF glass). The closest glass recycling plant is located in Wilson, North Carolina, about 150 miles south of downtown Richmond. The Commonwealth should consider economic incentives to encourage a glass recycler to locate in Virginia. Alternatively, these incentives could help establish intermediate glass processing facilities which could consolidate glass from the current MRF’s in the state and “pre-process” and upgrade the glass to ship a higher quality product at a higher value to Wilson. These economic incentives could include participation by NGO’s who are glass bottle producers and wholesalers using grants, etc.</p>
<p>Reform glass recycling in the State of Virginia. According to studies the Glass Packaging Institute (GPI) conducted in 2020, and enhanced analysis in 2021, the Virginia economy generates over 300k tons of consumer container glass each year, and as much as 330k tons, but roughly only 15 percent of that is recycled into beneficial use and less than 10 percent making it back into glass container manufacturing, despite two container manufacturing plants in the State. In addition to a key policy change that would inhibit sending glass to landfill, the primary barrier is a lack of glass cleaning equipment at most MRFs in the state (no facility in the state sends the majority of its glass stream to processing), and the lack of a processing facility in the State. While a bottle bill would produce the highest volume of clean valuable material, significant progress can be made without such legislation. The glass industry recommends a series of options, including separate glass curbside pickup programs, commercial bar and restaurant/hospitality collection programs combined with a handful of regional hub and spoke aggregation centers, as well as cleaning equipment at MRFs to reduce contamination in the glass commodity stream. A new processing facility handling anywhere from 60k to 120k tons per year could be sited in the state that could draw glass from the major population centers, with the rural areas feeding into the hub and spoke system. Such a facility would be ideally situated with freight rail access and truck transportation that can reach west to Roanoke and Charlottesville and East to the Tidewater area, as well as draw from Northern VA and Richmond.</p>
<p>PaintCare, to address waste paint could support current and invite additional industry to the Commonwealth. PaintCare from other states, rely on a Virginia materials processing firm, and the program has met with success in the states (including DC) that use PaintCare.</p>
<p>The state should explore business opportunities and economic development related to construction debris. Northern Virginia and other state CDD landfills are reducing capacity, while building and construction continues. There are opportunities for reuse, recovery of soils and construction demolition and debris materials that should be explored. This is a construction industry and infrastructure issue that should be addressed. Limitations on landfills has registered with dumping in our region and creating a business model for recovery and management represents an opportunity in the state, preserving landfill space as well.</p>
<p>The state has lost their waste tire processor, and there is an increased need to support tire recovery and reuse markets. In addition, the current tire fund is too low to address any kind of benefit for haulers and processors. US Tire Manufacturers and scrap associations have made recommendations that Virginia could apply. DEQ and VDOT are working on some innovative pilot applications related to used tires in asphalt roads.</p>
<p>Virginia should address challenging/difficult to dispose of materials/ newer waste streams, (such as solar panels, gas tanks, EV batteries, plastic), as an economic opportunity to develop markets, new technologies, and support EPR. Doing so would strengthen Virginia’s economic and environmental resiliency and leadership.</p>
<p>Establish a Recycling Business Assistance Center (RBAC) to conduct periodic recycling impact studies, develop a One-Stop Permit Shop, coordinate information on funding opportunities, provide tools and conduct research on recycling markets, work one-on-one with companies to assess needs and provide assistance, and provide news releases to public media about companies’ successes and publications pertinent to the recycling industry.</p>

WDRTF Suggestions RE EO17 – Encouraging Recycling Businesses to Locate in Virginia

<p>Seek legislative authority to impose a \$2.00 per ton surcharge on all MSW generated in Virginia and either landfilled or incinerated on-site (potentially producing \$5.75 million in surcharge revenues) that go into a “lockbox” trust fund and used to provide incentive grants to public and private entities to expand the diversion and recycling infrastructure for capital expenses such as collection containers and vehicles, processing equipment (both stationary and mobile) and building/site upgrades and improvements, not for acquisition of land or for operating expenses.</p>
<p>Seek legislative authority to expand eligible expenses and criteria for the recycling equipment tax credit from 20% to 50% of capitalized cost, increase the ceiling from 40% to 70% of the Virginia income tax liability, and allow applicants for certification to apply for equipment purchased up to three years prior.</p>
<p>Seek legislative authority to reimburse Virginia local governments for any property tax exemptions they agree to issue for DEQ-certified recycling equipment, facilities and devices, and to reimburse local governments for agreeing to waive Machinery and Tools taxes for any DEQ-certified recycling equipment.</p>
<p>Work with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and local Economic Development Authorities to develop tools to assist industries in evaluating options for locating in Virginia, such as developing a web-based Geographic Information Systems (GIS) model of the recycling and diversion infrastructure in Virginia to include locations, contact information, materials handled, etc.; developing a Model Zoning Ordinance; and developing a GIS model of sites that meet the siting criteria in the Virginia Solid Waste Management regulations (9VAC20-81-320)).</p>
<p>Work with State agencies to modify their procurement practices to use more recycled-content materials. Work with the Department of General Services to identify goods and commodities purchased by Virginia state agencies that could be sourced from vendors providing a higher “recycled content” in those goods and commodities (e.g. office/copier paper made from 100% recycled fiber); work with Virginia Transportation Research Council to revisit the conclusions of earlier studies of incorporating recycled glass into asphalt-concrete mixes and other suitable materials for road sub-base paving; publish a web-based directory of recycled-content goods and commodities that could be available to local jurisdictions’ purchasing departments and encourage them to use those goods, and seek legislative authority to reimburse Virginia colleges and universities who switch from disposable to compostable servingware in their dining establishments .</p>
<p>Work with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to establish guidelines for the use of compost, and compost-based soils, made from the recycled organic fraction of solid wastes, for use as a soil amendment in new or substantially-modified construction to raise soil organic matter levels, to increase the amount of rainfall infiltrated into soils (thus reducing the quantity of storm water runoff) with corresponding benefits to receiving streams water quality, and to potentially increase carbon dioxide sequestration in soils. Fund the research to demonstrate that the use of compost amendments in soils has long-lasting effects in reducing storm water runoff so that users can apply for and receive credits on their local storm water management fees. Promote the Virginia Tech Soil Profile Rebuilding protocol and the Arlington County land disturbance revitalization program state-wide.</p>
<p>Address recycling in the commonwealth. In our county we have over 100 schools and out of that number we have only 6 partaking in food waste to compost as a pilot program. I asked why only 6 at a meeting the answer was 'cost'. Secondly, reading about the need to recycle more and to bring in businesses to the commonwealth brings several questions such as: "what are we doing currently in this area?" "How are we educating the public and businesses on HOW to recycle and do it efficiently?" Lastly, "What incentives is the commonwealth willing to provide to lure the businesses to the commonwealth considering the political atmosphere?". Locally, I have suggested we need to educate and motivate with incentives to elementary, middle and high schools in recycling as well as involving colleges in the study of environmental needs to mentor high school students to utilize the landfills as a classroom for these initiatives. Cost and coordination of this was an issue.</p>
<p>According to the US EPA, approximately 28% of the total material stream is composed of food scraps and yard trimmings (organic waste). Virginia should consider ways to support efforts by public and private entities to compost or anaerobically digest (form of recycling) organic waste as well as supporting the creation of end markets for the distribution and marketing of that compost back to consumers. Maryland has a great example of this. The Prince George's County Organics Compost facility is run by Maryland Environmental Service. They collect food, leaf, and yard waste from the DC, MD, VA and turns it into Leafgro® compost which is a rich soil amendment for sale across the region at retailers such as Home Depot, Lowes, nurseries, and more. The facility is able to generate revenue both from the processing cost per ton, but also the sale of the finished compost. One of the first steps that Virginia can take is banning or requiring mandatory separation of collection of yard trimmings which is the case for 27 states in the country. Additional organics processing facilities and organics transfer stations across the state with lower the cost of disposal of food and organic waste at compost or anaerobic digestion facilities vs. waste-to-energy facilities or landfills would make it economical for municipalities, private entities, and others to separate the materials.</p>
<p>Pass a Beverage Container Deposit Law. All other states that have a beverage deposit law have significant gains in economic activity - someone must collect, sort, haul, process, clean and remanufacture new containers. This can be largely paid for by the unredeemed deposits - those that don't recycle pay for those that do recycle. Oregon has almost 400 jobs paid for by their bottle bill, with ZERO DOLLARS of taxpayer money. Virginia has twice the population, so we'd be roughly twice</p>

WDRTF Suggestions RE EO17 – Encouraging Recycling Businesses to Locate in Virginia

that amount. They also opened up a plastic bottle processing factory that flakes and cleans the returned bottles - the plant only has one customer - the Oregon Bottle Recycling Cooperative. This is a new plant developed just for Oregon.

Increase the Recycle Rate from 25% to 80% for Large Solid Waste Districts. The recycle rate was established 20 years ago and hasn't changed since. Because Fairfax and most other large districts exceeded 25% 19 years ago, there isn't any new development of recycling methods. Lots of little around the edge's changes, but we are missing out on the natural growth of new ideas and ACTIONS (ACTIONS = MONEY) that having to meet an increased goal would bring. Simply put, there isn't a whole lot of time and money spent on new recycling ideas because there is no mandate for change. No goal, no plan, no action, no growth. Because the goal doesn't have a penalty, even an aspirational goal would provide incentive, without the need to create new taxes. What we are looking for is for something to drive innovation. A phased in aspirational goal would only help.

Require the Large-Scale Producers of Organic Waste to Compost. We could start with State run facilities, and loop in Counties and schools, but really it would be nice to require all large-scale organic waste producers (hotels, grocery stores, restaurant districts, schools) to compost. This would increase the need for large commercial grade/scale compost facilities and hundreds of small haulers.

Study EPR laws: If activity = money and more activity is more economic growth, there are plenty of EPR laws that would reduce municipal money spent on trash and divert it to recycling activity. [Mattresses](#), [paint](#), [batteries](#), e-waste and other hard to dispose of items are all industries that have existing infrastructure to recycle their products. All those products need to be collected, sorted, hauled, and recycled within Virginia, so it's an economic gain. **Make the consumer responsible for recycling their stuff – not municipalities.**

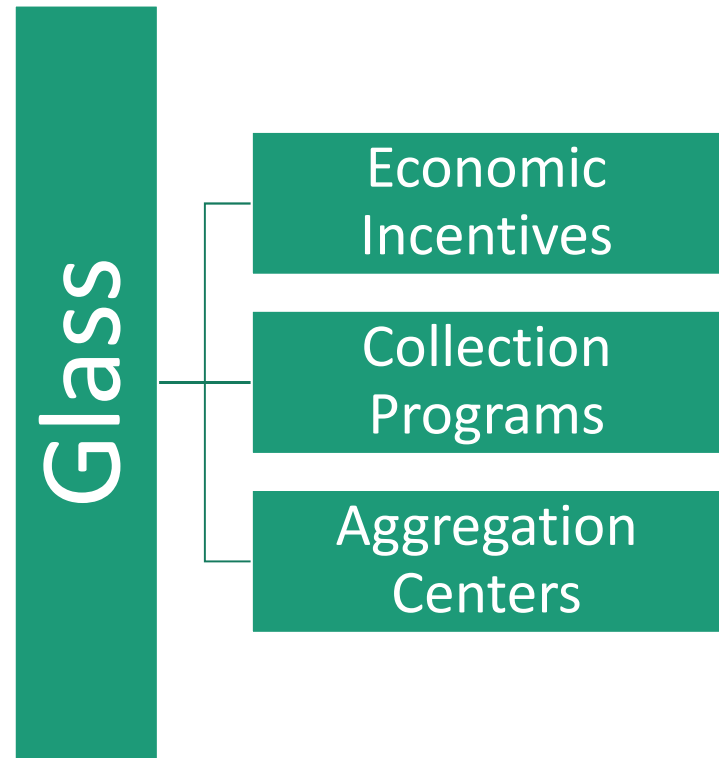
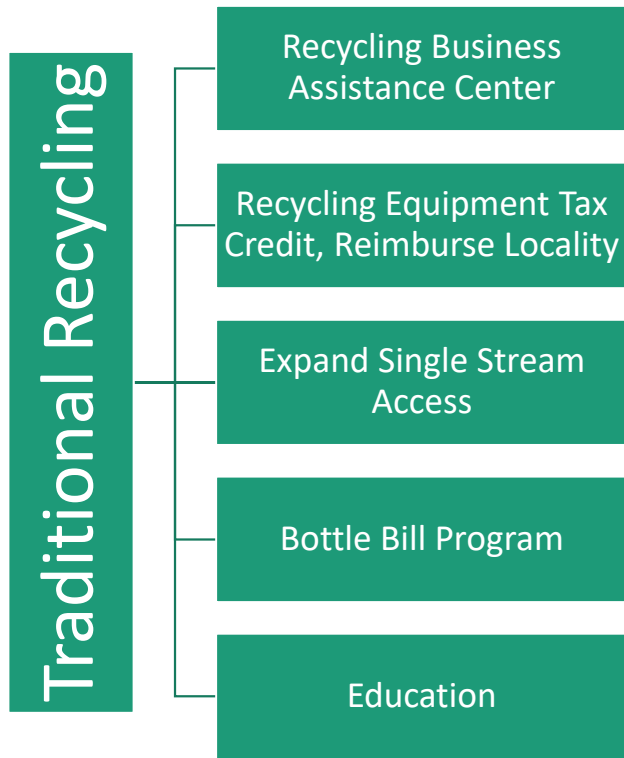
Support a new business model collecting glass from restaurants (see [Chicago Project](#)). They would collect, haul and recycle bottles from restaurants to be made into new bottles. This just needs to be organized into a pilot project. The pilot in Chicago is free for now, but they are betting the restaurants would be able to pay the \$200 monthly fee for the service. This would dovetail nicely with the existing "Purple Can Club" in Northern Virginia, where the Counties already have dumpsters set out as public drop off points for glass recycling. The material is sold to Strategic Materials to be made into new bottles. Even if we limited the service to restaurant dense areas of major urban areas, this is a lot of hauling and sorting that needs to be done. Good medium wage jobs, lots of benefits for the environment.

[DeliverZero](#) is a New York City based company that **offers food delivery services and restaurants a system for using, tracking and retrieving reusable take out containers.** They want to come to Virginia, but it would be faster if the State reached out and assisted them. The environmental benefit would be huge - cutting down on all those single use plastics and Styrofoam containers currently in use. DeliverZero is a merchant and platform agnostic network of returnable reusable containers. We make it easy for restaurants and delivery platforms to offer customers the option to receive takeout and delivery in reusable containers they can return at their door or at any return point on our network. Over 200 billion single-use containers are thrown out every year in the US. Most of those are used for just 30 minutes before they end up in a landfill, because even if they're designed to be recycled or composted, the infrastructure to recycle or compost most single-use takeout packaging does not exist. Recent studies show that in the US, just 5% of its plastic waste is actually recycled, and only a few industrial composting facilities accept takeout packaging. According to [Upstream's Reuse Wins](#) report, reusable food service containers beat single-use alternatives through every environmental measure, including climate pollution, energy use, water use, resource extraction, waste, and plastic pollution. Our tech-enabled solution makes reuse accessible to both customers and merchants at scale.

[Lifecycle Sherlock](#) is a small business that does **computer recycling**. Virginia can always use help with e waste solutions. Executive Order 17 did not include a primary solid waste that is a major contributor to landfill...electronic and equipment waste. Diverting e-waste from landfill not only reduces Greenhouse Gas emissions and improves ESG metrics, but it also plays a role in improving cybersecurity because cyber thieves pick up discarded IT and IoT devices from landfills and steal data from hard drives and data storage devices. LifeCycle Sherlock would be helped by the Youngkin administration if they updated state policies to include any of the following: (a) 3rd party verification of ESG, Sustainability metrics claimed by companies in their public documents (K10, shareholder report...), (b) policy to require businesses to dispose of any surplus/end of life assets by using a R2V3/ISO 15001 certified asset disposal process or certified provider, (c) policy that requires weight diverted from landfill metrics be certified (e.g. proven recycling/reuse of assets) for companies with 50+ employees operating in Loudoun County, (d) energy policy needs to have clear language on data sanitization of any "end of life" assets that may have sensitive data, network configurations, etc., and (e) companies with over 50 employees doing business with the Commonwealth of VA to be required to provide a PE/CEM certified carbon footprint report each year to demonstrate ESG/Sustainability improvements are being made by the company.

Executive Order 17 Feedback Categorization

EO17 Suggestions




Task Force Report Overview

WDRTF Report

Craig Coker & Jared Stoltzfus

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Template Report

- Executive Summary
 - Background & Process
 - Summary of Meetings
 - Recommendations
 - Attachments
- 
- Waste Reduction & Diversion
 - Improve Recycling
 - Bottle Bill Discussion
 - Litter Grant
 - Food Donation & Composting
 - Electric Vehicle Batteries
 - Ways to Encourage New Recycling Related Businesses (EO17)

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DEQ