



SWEEP Pilot Standard 2.0 for Local Government

Pilot Standard 2.0—Comment Draft
October 12, 2026

Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in the Pilot SWEEP (Solid Waste Environmental Excellence Performance) Standard for Local Government.

SWEEP is the product of volunteer industry experts, like you, sharing their experience and expertise in best practices to help transform the solid waste sector toward sustainability.

SWEEP is currently undergoing a Pilot evaluation process in multiple jurisdictions of varying size and waste management program design from across the country.

Lessons learned and the certification materials and tools developed in the Pilot Program will be incorporated into the public-release draft of SWEEP.

Once again thank you for your interest and we look forward to hearing your thoughts.

– The SWEEP Team

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Executive Description

Performance Categories, KPIs and Credits

The Local Government Standard is composed of 6 Performance Categories designed to comprehensively address sustainable waste management from intention (policy) through to implementation and verification (data collection):

Performance Category	Credits	Points
1. Sustainable Materials Management Policy (SMMP)	1 Minimum Performance Credit; 8 Credits	20 points
2. Waste Generation and Prevention (WGP)	1 Minimum Performance Credit; 9 Credits	18 points
3. Solid Waste Collection (SWC)	10 Credits	18 points
4. Post-Collection Recovery (PCR)	1 Minimum Performance Credit; 16 Credits	29 points
5. Post-Collection Disposal (PCD)	9 Credits	15 points
Core Total	3 Minimum Performance Credits; 52 Credits	100 points
6. Innovation		10 bonus points

In addition to the 5 core Performance Categories, a separate Innovation performance category recognizes measures and approaches that are beyond best practice.

Within the Performance Categories, credit is given for specific measurable and verified actions. Credits under these Performance Categories are organized by four Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that define the framework by which SWEEP measures success:

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Environmental Performance
- Economic Performance
- Public Participation, Working Conditions and Community Impact

Credits are specific actions designed to meet the goals of SWEEP that are documented by entities seeking certification and verified by an independent certification body approved by SWEEP. At the outset, SWEEP may perform the certification activity.

SWEEP credits are structured as follows:

- **Intent:** States the purpose of the credit (the "Why").
- **Local Government Requirements:** Describes the specific actions the applicant needs to take to achieve credit toward certification (the "What").
- **Potential Strategies:** Examples of how to achieve the Requirement(s) (the "How"). Strategies are for reference only; they are not part of the standard and projects are not required to follow the examples given.

Minimum Performance Credits

Three credits in the Local Government Standard are designated as Minimum Performance Credits (MPCs). MPCs establish the foundational policy, measurement and diversion performance on which the rest of the standard is built:

- SMMP MPC: *Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Policy and Programs*
- WGP MPC: *Measuring and Calculating Waste Generation, Recovery and Disposal*
- PCR MPC: *Minimum Diversion/Maximum Per Capita Disposal Rate*

MPCs do not carry points and are not included in the 100-point core scale. Instead, the number of MPCs achieved determines the highest certification level for which an applicant is eligible. Any MPC may be used to satisfy the requirement; no particular MPC is required for a given level. An applicant that achieves none of the MPCs may still be certified at the Bronze level, provided the point and distribution requirements are met.

Certification Level	MPCs Required	Which MPCs
Bronze	0	None required
Silver	1	Any 1 of the 3
Gold	2	Any 2 of the 3
Platinum	3	All 3

How SWEEP Standards Apply to Different Participants

The SWEEP System is comprised of three complementary standards, the first for Local Government, the second for Industry, and the third for Campuses. SWEEP is developing new AI-based Certification tools to support the development of project submittals and their review.

Scope of SWEEP

(The scope of applicable credits is covered in more detail in the Certification Manual.)

SWEEP will only evaluate the performance of elements of waste management that the applicant controls. For example, if a municipality seeking certification does not own or operate a transfer station, credits applying to transfer station operations would not be included in the certification requirements, thereby not penalizing the jurisdiction for not owning/operating that type of equipment. Similarly, if a Local Government does not own or operate a landfill, most of the Post-Collection Disposal credits would not apply.

As a practical matter, all applicants will be evaluated on their policy foundation through Sustainable Materials Management Policies (SMMP) and all projects will be evaluated on their approach to Waste Generation and Prevention (WGP).

For the operational elements of the materials management supply chain (Collection, Recovery and Disposal), SWEEP will only evaluate applicants based on elements that they manage directly.

There will be cases where these activities are shared. For example, a Local Government may collect residential waste, but not commercial. In this instance, the Local Government would only be evaluated on the basis of the residential collection fleet.

Certification levels are set as a percentage of the core points applicable to the applicant, so an applicant with a narrower scope requires fewer points to reach a given level. For example, an applicant that

collects waste and owns a MRF, but not a landfill, would require fewer points to achieve Silver (40-54% of applicable core points) than a vertically integrated program:

- Without a landfill/WTE plant: Silver = 34-45 points ($0.40 \times 85 = 34$)
- Vertically integrated with a landfill: Silver = 40-54 points

Performance Category	No Disposal Owned/Operated	With Disposal Owned/Operated
SMMP	20 points	20 points
WGP	18 points	18 points
SWC	18 points	18 points
PCR	29 points	29 points
PCD	0 points	15 points
Total	85 points	100 points
Innovation	10 points	10 points
Reciprocal	5 points	5 points

The Minimum Performance Credit and distribution requirements are likewise applied only to the Performance Categories that fall within the applicant's scope.

"Reciprocity" in SWEEP

One goal of SWEEP is to grow cooperation between Local Governments, Industry, and service providers. One way to do this is to give extra credit for "Reciprocity". A total of 5 "Innovation" points is available for reciprocal actions/activities.

Reciprocity in SWEEP means that the achievement of one partner in delivering a materials management service can be included in the reporting of the other party, thereby earning it extra credit.

For example, if a private MRF provides SWEEP-qualifying recycling services to the Local Government, and the Local Government provides the documentation as part of its SWEEP application, then it would be eligible for up to 3 Innovation points for Reciprocity depending on the level of performance.

In addition, if the private MRF (assuming it's a standalone facility) applies for SWEEP certification, they too would be eligible for Innovation credit for supplying the information to the Local Government.

Supplying *	Receiving (Applicant)
Performance Information	+1 Innovation Point
Qualifying Performance Information	+ Full points for the credit achieved.

** When the Information Supplier applies for Certification, they automatically receive an Innovation point for sharing info.*

SWEEP Requirements and Federal and State Standards

SWEEP requirements are never a substitute for Federal, State, or Local standards for any of the criteria in the system. One of the Minimum Requirements for SWEEP is that certifying entities, whether public or private, are compliant with all relevant regulations. If SWEEP is more stringent than these mandatory requirements, in order to receive credit in SWEEP, certifying entities are expected to meet these levels of performance. If State or Federal requirements are more stringent than SWEEP, then the expectation is that the certifying entity will comply with these standards; credit under SWEEP will be guaranteed, so long as achievement is demonstrated.

SWEEP Certification Manual

The SWEEP Certification Manual™ provides detailed documentation requirements, calculation methodologies, default values and other key information about achieving SWEEP credits.

The Certification Manual is a separate electronic document that is linked with the online Certification forms and is available with a separate subscription. The Certification Manual is regularly updated, and subscribers will receive these updates automatically.

Certification Levels

SWEEP offers four certification levels. To achieve a level, an applicant must meet all three of the following requirements for that level:

- **Points:** earn the required percentage of the core points applicable to the applicant's scope.
- **Minimum Performance Credits:** achieve the required number of MPCs (any of the three).
- **Distribution:** achieve the required minimum number of credits in each applicable Performance Category.

Level	Points (% of applicable core points)	MPCs Required	Distribution Requirement (credits per applicable Performance Category)
Bronze	25-39%	0	1
Silver	40-54%	1	2
Gold	55-74%	2	3
Platinum	75% or more	3	4

Innovation points count toward the applicant's final score but are not included in the core-point denominator used to calculate the percentage.

Because the scope of the standard varies with the scope of the activities being evaluated, two different applicants each receiving Gold certification could have different point totals depending on the coverage of their respective programs.

Distribution Requirement

The distribution requirement ensures that certification reflects a balanced program rather than concentrated performance in one area. For example, for each Performance Category within the applicant's scope, the applicant must achieve at least the number of credits shown in the table above-**as relevant to the scope of the operation**; for example in a vertically integrated company, a Gold applicant must achieve at least 3 credits in SMMP, at least 3 in WGP, at least 3 in SWC, at least 3 in PCR, and at least 3 in PCD. A Gold applicant that is strictly a Hauler would need at least 3 credits in SMMP, at least 3 in WGP, and at least 3 in SWC.

The following rules apply:

- A credit counts toward the distribution requirement when it is achieved at any tier; full achievement of every tier is not required.
- Minimum Performance Credits do not count toward the distribution requirement.

- The requirement applies only to Performance Categories that are applicable to the applicant. If a category (for example, Post-Collection Disposal) is outside the applicant's scope, no credits are required in that category.
- Innovation points do not satisfy the distribution requirement.

An applicant that earns sufficient points for a level but does not meet the MPC or distribution requirement for that level is certified at the highest level for which all three requirements are met.

1. Sustainable Materials Management Policies (SMMP) (20 Possible Points)

Sustainable Materials Management Policies refer to a broad array of regulatory and policy measures aimed at minimizing solid waste generation, improving the performance of solid waste collection, processing, and recovery practices.

The SMMP requirements of SWEEP take into account four key performance indicators (KPI):

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Environmental Performance
- Economic Performance
- Public Participation

SMMP Efficiency & Effectiveness Key Performance Indicator (KPI)

SMMP Minimum Performance Credit 1: *Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Policy and Programs* (No points)

Intent:

To promote the highest and best use of materials and to reduce the overall generation of waste through the adoption of government policies and programs.

Local Government Requirements

Design and adopt a Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management policy that covers 60% of the following elements as applicable to the service area:

- Include a clear statement of waste reduction goals.
- Establish programs that minimize the generation of waste at the source.
- Develop a roadmap that ultimately diverts materials away from landfills and waste-to-energy facilities.
- Set procurement rules for environmentally preferred products (EPP) and recycled content products, with emphasis on domestic infrastructure.
- In cooperation with the relevant State and Federal authorities, define requirements for source separation of materials, depending on the material management system used.
- Includes a Disaster Debris Management Plan
- Environmental and energy performance standards for collection vehicles
- Establish a public and employee education and information program, as appropriate.
- Employees must go through training in their respective positions on the environmental policies and procedures they must follow
- Adopt specific MWBE/Veteran, women, or minority-owned business shared goals.
- Require best available management practices for landfill operations (methane recovery, leachate treatment—including PFAS monitoring and mitigation, odor and vector control, safety, alternative daily cover contamination minimization)
- Provide thorough documentation of all greenhouse gas emissions from landfills or waste management activities and describe the use of the best available technology as approved by the US EPA to monitor greenhouse gas emissions.
- Provide thorough documentation of emissions leakage from energy recovery system, if applicable
- Landfill facilities that utilize LFG as a renewable energy source can be managed to maximize landfill gas recovery but must not be managed to maximize landfill gas production, such as treating it like a bioreactor and/or recirculating leachate.
- Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) use should meet Federal and State regulations as well as the following:

- Use of ash and sewage sludge is prohibited unless the face of the landfill is covered by a tarp or other approved dust suppression techniques are used (e.g., foams or slurries)
 - Require the use of continuous active dust suppression techniques
 - Do not permit the use of glass or other materials that have established markets for recycling or diversion. Recyclable materials used as ADC do not count towards diversion rate regardless of a market being available.
- Describes measures taken to monitor and mitigate PFAS contamination in leachate and groundwater.
- Include a stakeholder outreach and participation plan that:
 - Establishes practices and/or programs to timely respond to any public complaints related to waste management activities.
 - Includes business representatives and community residents and is inclusive of all groups
 - Is sensitive to environmental justice concerns, including accounting for:
 - Impacts on public health and quality of life
 - Impacts on the job market and communities' employment opportunities
 - Identifies plans to provide protection and ensure environmental justice to its community when stakeholders may hold conflicts of interest.

Potential Strategies

- Look comprehensively at materials management issues.
- Require use of recycled materials so long as material is to spec, and cost is equal.
- Require best available landfill management practices, including management of methane recovery, groundwater management, leachate treatment—including PFAS/PFOA, odor and vector control, safety, etc.
- Conduct a life cycle assessment of different waste management options that assess the option's environmental components.
 - Minimally, the assessment should include:
 - All GHGs, criteria air pollutants, hazardous air pollutants, and biogenic emissions emitted from disposal facilities
 - The number of people impacted within a given radius and the demographics and health disparities of the impacted population
 - Jobs generated
 - Evaluate and quantify the externalized costs of:
 - The health impacts of waste-related pollution on impacted communities
 - Environmental and social impacts of disposal facilities and sites from air emissions
 - Production and disposal

- As well as social and economic components
- Certification in applicable training is required
- Take into consideration local market conditions for materials such as glass, which tend to be more local and regional in nature.

Note: Life cycle assessment should not account as diversion waste that is diverted from landfills to waste to energy and thermal conversion facilities.

SMMP Performance Path

See the innovation section for the requirements of the Performance path. The Performance Path is an alternative to the Prescriptive path described below. If an Applicant chooses the Performance Path, no Prescriptive SMMP Credits will be awarded.

SMMP Credit 1: *Materials Processing Infrastructure and Market Development Policy* (2 points)

Intent:

To support economic development by increasing local and/or regional processing infrastructure and markets for recovered materials.

Local Government Requirements

Develop and adopt a policy that facilitates and supports the development of public and/or private processing and manufacturing infrastructure for recovered materials and incentives for purchasing the output of these facilities.

Potential Strategies:

- Convene an **Enabling Board** to support local economic development through material recovery and processing infrastructure.
- “Buy local” and “buy recycled” content incentives in procurement. Incentives can include low-interest loans, grants, technical assistance and business development and marketing support.
- Be a collaborative partner, streamline and assist in the project development process for qualifying projects, including accelerating permitting, fee or tax reductions, etc.
- Integrate market development incentives in service agreements, i.e., offset costs of processing for hard-to-market recoverable materials.
- Set up a “last chance” mercantile stores that sell reusable goods that have been either donated to or salvaged by waste processing facilities.

SMMP Credit 2: Adoption of Diversion and Recycling Goals (1-3 points)

Intent:

Increase recycling, composting and other beneficial utilization of waste through methods that have been proven non-harmful to environmental systems and human life and increase the productivity of alternative disposal methods so that the highest quality outcomes are produced.

Local Government Requirements

Adopt a policy¹ that sets recycling and landfill diversion goals that exceed U.S. national average recycling and diversion rates as reported by the Waste Business Journal and the Construction and Demolition Recycling Association for MSW and Mixed C&D waste, respectively. The policy or implementation program for the goal must require publicly reporting achieved recycling/diversion goals and require that recycling and diversion methods yield the highest quality outcome/product of disposed-of materials.

C&D Diversion Facilities must obtain CORR certification to be considered a qualifying diversion facility within this standard. (<https://www.recyclingcertification.org/resources/>)

Tier 1: (1 Point)

Adopt a policy to achieve recycling and diversion rates 10 percent higher than the national Average Recycling Rate² for MSW and 15 percent higher than the national average recycling rate for C&D.

- Residue from recycling facilities should not exceed 20 percent.

Tier 2: (+1 Point)

Adopt a policy to achieve recycling and diversion rates 20 percent higher than the National Average Recycling Rate for MSW and 25 percent higher than the national average recycling rate for C&D.

- Residue from recycling facilities should not exceed 15 percent.

Tier 3: (+1 Point)

Adopt a policy to achieve a Zero Waste goal.

Alternative Compliance Path:³

Tier 1: (1 Point)

Adopt a policy to achieve Recycling and Diversion rates 10 percent higher than the Local Government's or state average as calculated and reported by Waste Business Journal and develop and submit a plan to achieve 10 percent higher than national average diversion within a period of 3-5 years.

- Residue from recycling facilities does not exceed 20 percent.

¹ Policy must adopt or reference the SWEEP Diversion Calculation Methodology and SWEEP Guidelines for Waste Characterization and Waste Generation Studies as the basis of the calculations. In addition, the Plan/Policy must be updated when there is a change in federal average diversion rates made publicly available.

² SWEEP uses the data developed by Waste Business Journal (WBJ). According to WBJ, the 2024 National Average Recycling Rate for MSW, which includes Bulky Waste and organics, is 25% and for C&D (Bulk Aggregate, Mixed C&D & Recycled Asphalt use the CDRA Mixed C&D recovery rate (38%). If SWEEP-reported National Average Recycling Rates increase, the policy should be adjusted accordingly.

³ The Alternative Compliance Path Plan/Policy must be updated when state and/or federal average diversion rates are made available.

Tier 2: (+1 Point)

Adopt a policy to achieve Recycling and Diversion rates 20 percent higher than the Local Government or state average as calculated and reported by Waste Business Journal and develop and submit a plan to achieve 20 percent higher than national average diversion within a period of 3-5 years.

- Residue from recycling facilities does not exceed 15 percent.

Tier 3: (+1 Point)

Adopt a policy or goal to achieve a Zero Waste goal within a period of 3-5 years.

Potential Strategies:

- Calculate the diversion rate.
- Measure residual rates. SWEEP requirements may be adjusted based on data acquired from the field.
- Establish policies, programs, and projects to increase diversion from disposal.
- Engage residents on ideas for how to increase diversion from disposal through regular surveys.
- National average recycling rates for MSW and C&D materials as they apply to Local Governments will be described more fully in the Certification Manual and will be based on conventional sources, such as the EPA and the Construction & Demolition Recycling Association.

SMMP Credit 3: *Regular Waste Characterization and Generation Study Policy* (2 points)

Intent:

To collect up-to-date data to support the development and evaluation of effective and sustainable materials management programs.

Local Government Requirements

Develop and adopt a policy to regularly collect data on the generation and characterization of all materials collected within the boundary of the Local Government, including MSW, Recycled Material, Organic Material and C&D Material.

The Government policy should reference and require waste characterization and generation studies to follow the *SWEEP Guidelines for Waste Characterization and Waste Generation Studies*⁴.

Potential Strategies:

- Consider utilizing Re-TRAC Connect as a data collection platform.
- Evaluate the development and implementation of a verification/certification/audit process.
- Local governments should engage colleges and universities to help conduct waste characterization surveys or updates.
- Smaller jurisdictions can join a WCS at the Regional Landfill as a way to reduce individual jurisdiction costs.

⁴ SWEEP Methodologies for calculating the Diversion Rate, Waste Generation and Characteristics will be under development during the Pilot Phase. Diversion rates should not include materials disposed of by waste to energy facilities. Diversion rates should not include waste derived alternative daily cover, such as ash, sewage sludge, or recyclable materials. Consider half credit for ADC. At a minimum, the policy must specify that a Comprehensive Waste Characterization Study and a Comprehensive Waste Generation Study be conducted every 7 years, with at least one Waste Characterization Update and one Waste Generation Update either 3 or 4 years between major studies. SWEEP will accept studies and updates from organized waste sheds in which the certifying Local Government is located. Numbers should be calculated using verifiable weights wherever possible. Using a State level assessment is acceptable if the applying jurisdiction is/was an active participant in this state assessment, either individually or through a not-for-profit professional association, such as the Illinois Counties Solid Waste Management Association.

SMMP Credit 4: *Advanced Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Policy* (2 points)

Intent:

To adopt policies and programs to promote environmental stewardship, including highest and best use of materials, to reduce the overall generation of waste.

Local Government Requirements

Implement the requirements of SMMP Minimum Performance Credit: ***Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Policy and Programs*** and adopt additional policy elements that cover at least 5 of the suggested programs below of the following, as applicable to the company service area:

- Regular collection of waste characterization and volume/weight data
- Measure and or calculate vehicle, disposal, and processing emissions (greenhouse gas, and criteria air pollutants) of each of the three major programs: trash, recycling, and compost.
- Collection and treatment of organics
- Energy efficiency and contamination standards for material recovery facilities (MRFs)
- Research, Development & Deployment (RD&D) incentive and education program for advanced sustainable material management technology and products for recovered materials.
- Disposal material ban(s)
- Participate in comprehensive industry safety programs
 - E.g. Slow down to get around; Lock out/Tag out, etc.; CDRA Safety Best Practices, etc.
- Mutual Aid Agreements requires a sustainable materials management plan for disaster debris management on the part of included agencies.
- Other SMM policies as proposed by the Local Government.

Potential Strategies:

- Evaluate different data collection options for regular waste characterization studies.
- Develop an organics processing strategy.
- Determine feasibility, including cost, infrastructure, etc. and legal precedent for banning certain materials from disposal.

SMMP Environmental Performance KPI

SMMP Credit 5: *Solid Waste Greenhouse Gas and Air Emissions Footprint Reduction Policy* (1-3 points)

Intent:

To reduce greenhouse gas, criteria air pollutants, and hazardous air pollutants (HAP) footprint of the Local Government's solid waste management program.

Local Government Requirements

Tier 1: (1 point)

Adopt a policy to measure and reduce the per capita greenhouse gas OR adopt a policy to reduce other criteria air⁵ pollutants and HAP footprint of the collection, recovery and disposal of waste within the Local Government jurisdiction by at least 20 percent compared with a 2015 baseline within 5 years of policy adoption. See PCD Credit 3: **Landfill Emissions Minimization** for specific landfill gas management requirements.

- Require measuring and documenting Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG and toxic emissions with the best available technology that captures emissions/leakages throughout the entire system.

Tier 2: (+2 points)

Adopt a policy to measure and reduce BOTH the per capita greenhouse gas AND other criteria air emissions footprint of the collection, recovery and disposal of waste within the Local Government jurisdiction by at least 20 percent compared with a 2015 baseline within 5 years of policy adoption. See PCD Credit 3: **Landfill Emissions Minimization** for specific landfill gas management requirements.

- Require measuring and documenting Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG and toxic emissions with the best available technology that captures emissions/leakages throughout the entire system.

Potential Strategies:

- Use a metric of carbon dioxide equivalents to quantify the carbon impact of waste, assessing the emissions generated by producing and recycling materials as well as the emissions from the disposal and/or conversion processes.

⁵ Criteria air pollutants as defined by the EPA are Ground-Level Ozone, Carbon Monoxide, Lead, Particulate Matter, Sulfur Dioxide and Nitrogen Dioxide.

SMMP Credit 6: *Source Reduction Policy* (3 points)

Intent:

Reduce waste generation and disposal through programs that encourage waste prevention and reuse.

Local Government Requirements

Develop, adopt, and document a policy to promote product and material waste prevention and reuse. The policy or programs should support at least 60% of the following, or equivalent, programs and activities:

- Partnerships with Food Rescue Groups
- Partnerships with local reuse organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, and Goodwill.
- Purchase products that have either a Healthy Product Declaration (HPD), or an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD).
- Promote backyard composting with subsidized bins, education, training, and other support.
- Partnership with companies and other local businesses that handle hard-to-recycle items.
- Programs to eliminate or reduce usage of products, for example:
 - Bans on the use of single-use plastic bags and other single-use plastics
 - Filtered water bottle refilling stations in public places
- Procurement programs that emphasize and reward source reduction
- Strengthen extended producer responsibility
- Replace throw-away system with alternative delivery systems including reusable/refillable
- Promote or support citizen or industry repair programs and infrastructure through “tool libraries,” “repair cafes,” corporate events (e.g., Patagonia repair bus), etc.
- Funding for source reduction programs
- Promote the use of reusable containers and selling in bulk
 - Examples:
 - Distribute reusable bags
 - Provide incentives for companies to use reusable containers
- Training and education programs about source reduction
- Support for and development of material exchanges
 - Including neighborhood reuse and repair centers
- Developing “On demand” programs for consumer items in service establishments, such as straws in restaurants and plastic cutlery in dining facilities
- Offer and promote no-cost regular business waste assessment/audit with recommendations for “right-sizing”.
- Adopt a C&D recycling ordinance that includes and incentivizes deconstruction.

Potential Strategies:

- Develop a comprehensive consumer outreach program to notify residents about the source reduction programs being supported and promoted by the Local Government.
- Include deconstruction requirements as part of the permitting and final approval process to add teeth to the policies.

SMMP Economic Performance KPI

SMMP Credit 7: *Market-Based Waste Management Program Policy* (1-3 points)

Intent:

Use market mechanisms to reduce waste generation and to incentivize more efficient waste management systems.

Local Government Requirements

Adopt the following incentive/market-based policies.

Tier 1: (1 point)

Develop and adopt 2 or more policies/programs.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Develop and adopt 4 or more policies/programs.

Tier 3: (+1 point)

Develop and adopt 6 or more policies/programs.

Sample list of potential based policies and programs

- Pay-as-you-throw variable pricing for waste management services.
- Offer and promote no-cost annual business waste assessment/audit with recommendations for “right-sizing”.
- Incentives for product ‘lightweighting’ through EPP guidelines.
- Tax breaks or other incentives for donations to non-profit food rescue or other intermediate material reuse organizations.
- Tax breaks and/or other incentives for difficult to recycle materials such as mattresses and Styrofoam.
- Incentives for xeriscaping or other policies to reduce grass planting and drought tolerant landscaping
- Optimize and incentivize procurement policies for products and materials that are recyclable and have recycled content.
- Creation of recycling market development zones.
- Adoption of reward-based recycling incentive programs, such as Recyclebank & other loyalty-based buyback programs.
- Advanced disposal/processing fees; e.g., Tire and battery disposal fees, and any other container reuse/recovery fees.
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) requirements in Local Government procurement⁶ or requirements for retail establishments should conform with Version 4 of SMaRT Sustainable

⁶ Local government compliance with state-level EPR legislation qualifies for this requirement.

Product Standard, or an equivalent standard that has an operational reuse prerequisite and credit for end-of-life reuse in excess of 35 percent.

- Other programs as defined by the Local Government

Potential Strategies:

- Evaluate the best combination of options to sustainably manage materials in the Local Government and develop an ordinance to adopt these programs.
- Ensure that dedicated resources are allocated for execution of the Sustainable Materials Management strategies.

SMMP Public Participation KPI

SMMP Credit 8: *Local Government Policy for Comprehensive Public Participation in Solid Waste Management Program Development* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Solicit and encourage broad public input into decision-making around solid waste management.

Local Government Requirements**Tier 1: (1 point)**

Adopt a policy of best-practices public participation in solid waste management decision-making⁷ as described in the EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Public Participation Manual January 11, 2017 https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-01/documents/final_rcra_ppm.pdf.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Implement Tier 1 requirements

AND

The policy must provide support for the inclusion of public participation. Support can include technical support, provided experts, funding, etc.

Potential Strategies

- Community meetings sponsored by public works or planning departments.
- Surveys performed at regular community events.
- Presentations and public input at regular or special council meetings.
- Online or written correspondence conducted among the community.
- Public hearings.

⁷ Solid waste management programs that could be addressed include recycling program development, waste management fees and contracts, landfill operations (Local Government and contracted), Solid Waste Management Plans, etc.

2. Waste Generation & Prevention (WGP) (18 Possible Points)

Waste generation refers to the volume or tonnage of solid waste generated prior to any recovery or disposal. Preventing and minimizing waste generation is widely considered to be more important than solid waste recovery and disposal; and it is prioritized first in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) sustainable materials management hierarchy.⁸

In an era of limited resources, the sustainable management of natural capital is increasingly at the forefront of international dialogue about how to achieve economic development without compromising human health and the environment. Avoiding wasting does both. Known generally as source reduction and reuse, these approaches reduce waste generation and maximize positive social value in terms of quality of life. Source reduction and reuse are addressed separately due to the difficulty of identifying and measuring impacts associated with prevention (e.g., how to count something that isn't there).⁹

Per capita waste generation (including construction and demolition waste) is the best way to measure the growth or lack of growth in waste generation. As the economy changes along with the population -- and the products and packages we use -- per capita waste generation gives us the best picture of where we are heading and whether or not we are succeeding at preventing waste.

The WGP requirements of SWEEP take into account **four key performance indicators (KPI)**:

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Environmental Performance
- Economic Performance
- Public Participation

⁸ EPA is thinking beyond waste; and it has transitioned from focusing on waste management to focusing on Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) <https://www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling/national-overview-facts-and-figures-materials>

⁹ A related issue is the continued efforts by private industry that may have contradictory impacts upon reducing waste or protecting the environment. Some examples include: the use of paper or heavier gauge plastic bags to replace single use thin-walled plastic bags; substitution of single use paper straws for plastic; substitution of lightweight plastics for heavier but more recyclable glass and metal containers; and the introduction of difficult to recycle aseptic packaging to avoid food product loss in the absence of refrigeration.

WGP Efficiency & Effectiveness KPI

WGP Minimum Performance Credit 1: *Measuring and Calculating Waste Generation, Recovery and Disposal* (No points)

Intent:

Develop an understanding of waste generation and characteristics as a good foundation for public policy making or business strategy and program implementation for measuring macro and micro progress towards achieving sustainable materials management objectives.

Local Government Requirements

Based on the SMMP Performance Path (SMMP Credit: ***Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Lifecycle Analysis and Policy Program***) or Prescriptive Path (other applicable SMMP credits pursued), the Local Government should estimate, calculate or measure the generation of municipal solid waste, including, as appropriate, construction and demolition (C&D) waste within the boundaries of the Local Government by the Residential and Nonresidential (i.e. multifamily, commercial and non-hazardous industrial premises) sectors.

The Local Government servicing the community should report total aggregated annual tonnage of all materials generated and collected by the Company including mixed waste, recycling (including contamination), green waste, and C&D as weighed on certified scales, or the equivalent, at the final destination of the material. Total waste imports should be measured/quantified separately but should not be included in the calculation of waste generation within the Local Government's jurisdiction.

The Local Government must collect data on how its waste is ultimately disposed of. This includes noting the type of facility where the waste is disposed, naming the specific facilities in use, and categorizing how much of the recycling stream is being diverted or sent to disposal.

Potential Strategies:

- Companies are only responsible for measuring or calculating materials that they handle through collection, processing, or disposal.
- Waste Management Companies should conduct a recent baseline study of waste generation and characterization within the Local Government's jurisdiction, including total quantity and composition, by both the residential and nonresidential sectors. This information should be updated on a regular basis.
- Conduct or support the development of regular (as defined in SMMP Credit 4) studies or surveys of major waste generators and/or haulers to estimate the total amount of waste by type generated in the Local Government's jurisdiction. Typically, the top 30% of individual sources generate upwards of 70% of all waste in that sector.
- Encourage or require transfer stations and material recovery facilities to conduct studies of received materials, any recovery, and residual disposition.
- For C&D associated with permitted projects, generation may be calculated based on lbs. per sq. ft.
- If field data are not available, use default waste generation and characterization values in the SWEEP Certification Manual to estimate waste generation and characterization.

WGP Credit 1: MSW Source Reduction Programs (1-3 points)

Intent:

Encourage reduced waste generation to minimize resource consumption throughout society, and to avoid human health and environmental impact from toxicity resulting from the manufacturing of goods.

Local Government Requirements

Implement a waste prevention program for MSW, including, as appropriate, C&D waste.

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Develop, support and promote at least **2** of the following—or equivalent—waste reduction programs in the Local Government's jurisdiction by the Residential and Nonresidential (i.e. multifamily, commercial and non-hazardous industrial premises) sectors.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

- Develop, support, and promote at least **4** of the following—or equivalent—waste reduction programs in the Local Government's jurisdiction by the Residential and Nonresidential (i.e. multifamily, commercial and non-hazardous industrial premises) sectors.

Tier 3: (+1 point)

- Develop, support and promote at least **6** of the following—or equivalent—waste reduction programs in the Local Government's jurisdiction by the Residential and Nonresidential (i.e. multifamily, commercial and non-hazardous industrial premises) sectors.

Examples of Waste Reduction Programs

- Rate structure modifications (Pay-as-you-throw programs in the residential sector and/or fee adjustments to nonresidential sector rates)
- Advanced disposal fees on single use, disposable, and non-durable goods
- Food waste reduction: (e.g., promoting reduced portions of food for customers)
- Material opt-out options (i.e., phone books, news publications, etc.)
- Sponsored book drives for community re-circulation
- Extended Producer Responsibility and Stewardship program targeting litter, single-use products, universal waste, or wasted goods (e.g., take it back programs for universal wastes)
- Reduce transport packaging program (e.g., reusable boxes)
- Waste prevention at venues and events (e.g., avoiding single use cups, plates, and utensils)
- Junk mail reduction program (removing customers from junk mail lists)
- Material leasing programs (e.g., returnable electronics)
- Awards and recognition program (e.g., trash cutters award)
- Environmentally preferable purchasing (e.g., avoiding wasteful purchases or ensuring recycled content)
- Xeriscaping program (e.g., rebate for replacing grass lawns with organic gardens)

- Discounts on reusable product usage (e.g., 15 cents off a coffee for using a reusable mug or a per bag discount for bringing your own reusable bag)
- Buy locally strategies for food and other goods
- Provide infrastructure for reusable food, back yard composting, beverage containers, and other equipment or programs for source reduction
- Other programs proposed by the certifying Local Government

Potential Strategies

- Disposal bans on plastic single use products
- Business waste prevention programs
- Smart shopping campaigns for residents and businesses
- Purchasing co-ops for residents and businesses
- Increase efforts to send C&D waste from projects to reuse centers rather than landfill or processing centers
- Encourage LEED or equivalent construction standards with builders and developers
- Code amendments to reflect source reduction practices
- Rate structure modifications
- Local Government procurement programs and local tax incentives
- Encourage local community gardens through zoning code revisions
- Encourage residential and nonresidential sector organics waste prevention program
- Establish composting program for organic waste of food services
- Provide online alternatives for textbook and paper material

WGP Credit 2: *Product Reuse and Food Rescue Programs/Projects* (1-2 points)

Intent:

To reduce disposal of products and food that are still usable or are fit for consumption through reuse and rescue programs.

Local Government Requirements

Local Government and/or its vendors should financially support or implement product reuse or upcycling programs

	Food Rescue (percent of available Edible Food)	Or	Near Expiration Date Discount Program
Tier 1: (1 Point)	Rescue 10 percent of available Edible Food		10 percent of local food stores have discount program
Tier 2: (+1 Point)	Rescue 20 percent		20 percent of local food stores

Potential Strategies:

- Promote and support Food rescue apps, such as Zero Food Waste Coalition, Food Rescue US and others....(maybe innovation for developing?)
- Support or encourage local product reuse programs and organizations through grants, publicity, educational awareness, social media, and/or technical assistance Local reuse companies and agencies
- Material reuse donations from businesses and institutions for schools
- Support or encourage local food rescue organizations through grants, publicity, educational awareness, social media, and/or technical assistance
- Connect businesses, residents and non-profits with food rescue smartphone applications that alert user whenever excess food becomes available for discounted or free consumption (ex: Food for All, Gebni, goMkt, etc.)
- “Spoiler Alert” for products with limited lifetime
- Recognize and promote stores that are being proactive in food waste recovery (e.g., Kroger Zero Waste, Zero Hunger)
- Promote educational campaigns on food waste reduction and awareness of food rescue
- Adopt additional “good Samaritan law” to augment the federal “Bill Emerson Act” which reduces liability for food vendors
- Have a health inspector go to food vendors to clarify these laws

WGP Credit 3: *Measuring and Calculating Source Reduction and Reuse/Rescue Impacts* (1-2 points)

Intent:

To consistently measure and/or calculate the generation and characterization of municipal solid waste within the Local Government's jurisdiction, including as appropriate, C&D waste, represents an important foundation for societal transformation of traditional solid waste management into effective sustainable materials management.

Local Government Requirements

Calculating Source Reduction Potential¹⁰ (1 point)

Based on calculated or measured waste generation and characterization, calculate the Source Reduction potential for the Local Government.

Utilize the source reduction potential calculation methodology outlined in the US EPA's *Source Reduction Program Potential Manual* available at <https://www.epa.gov/nscep>

Calculating Reuse & Rescue¹¹ (1 point)

Estimate, calculate or measure waste diverted from disposal through Reuse and Rescue programs operating within the Local Government's jurisdiction.

Utilize the SWEEP reuse and rescue calculation methodology outlined in the Certification Manual.

Potential Strategies:

- Encourage certification of public and private facilities to the TRUE Standard
- Food rescue programs/projects "Spoiler Alert" for products with limited lifetime
- Implement and enforce local mandatory business waste prevention policy.
- Educational programs on reuse and source reduction
 - Prevalence and magnitude of educational programs for residents &/or commercial/institutional organizations
 - Prevalence and magnitude of educational programs for waste management employees
- Measuring/calculating
 - Total solid waste generated;
 - Per capita solid waste generation;
 - Residential vs. Commercial origin;
- Procurement policies and achievements
 - EPP policy-recycling, composting, etc.
 - Municipal building recycling & composting programs

¹⁰ SWEEP Guidelines for Waste Characterization and Waste Generation Studies must be adopted and implemented.

¹¹ Guidelines for calculating Reuse and Rescue will be developed in the Certification Manual.

- Buy used
 - Use remanufactured toner cartridges
 - Buy Recycled
 - Auction/resale of used goods
 - Encouraging take-back programs
- Product labeling practices
 - Procurement guidelines regarding labeling products as compostable or other definitional label
- Local Government Sponsored Source Reduction programs:
 - Backyard composting;
 - Material exchanges/material libraries, e.g., textiles/clothing
 - Waste audit & recommendations “right-size” programs
 - Phone book and junk mail opt out program
 - Grasscycling
 - Xeriscaping

WGP Environmental Performance KPI

WGP Credit 4: *Litter Prevention and Reduction Infrastructure* (1 point)

Intent:

To beautify public areas, prevent materials from polluting the natural environment, and encourage proper handling of materials by Local Governments.

Local Government Requirements

- Prevention
 - Implement a program that encourages the adoption of durable products such as reusable bags and cups and disincentivizes single-use alternatives or eliminating disposable, single-use packaging at government sponsored community events.
- Reduction
 - Maintain a sufficient number of receptacles in public areas including walkways, parks, and other public places.
 - Receptacles should be both visible and have effective signage.
 - Side by side receptacles for both recycling and trash.
 - Receptacles must have openings that contain waste without impeding the introduction of new material (i.e., push flaps, tops).
 - Consistent and reliable servicing of receptacles.
 - A schedule is in place to appropriately empty receptacles nearing capacity.
 - Limit overflow events to *zero* (0) per year.
- Enforcement
 - Demonstrate rapid cleanup of illegal dumping within 72 hours of being notified of the illegal dumping.
 - Demonstrate increased enforcement and fines for littering and illegal dumping.
 - Add signage stating no litter or dumping.

Potential Strategies

- Example methods include unified language, artwork, vibrant colors, and/or colors that coincide with universal understanding
- In addition to trash, have multi-material disposal options (such as trash and recycling together).
- Ensure timely trash removal to prevent overflow
- Effective signage for guidance on recycling and composting
- Programs to eliminate or reduce usage of products that are frequently littered e.g., bag bans or taxes/promotion or distribution of reusable bags; water bottle refilling stations in public places.
- Partnering with local businesses or community groups and doing “Adopt a Street” programs.

- Partnering with campus groups for community cleanup volunteer events
- Consistent education through labeling of acceptable materials in all container types – i.e., trash or recycling
- Enforcement of litter laws.
- Analyze usage of street bin infrastructure and develop / adjust schedule based on seasonality and city events.
- Include support for container deposit return systems, which have proven effective at significantly reducing litter and marine/waterway debris.
- Utilize cloud-based remote receptacle monitoring systems and “smart” bins.
- Utilize sanitary bins and enforce regular cleaning to encourage users to engage with the product rather than littering
- Litter collection activities conducted in support of the SWEEP “Good Neighbor” credits, do not count toward this credit

WGP Economic Performance KPI

WGP Credit 5: *Environmentally Preferable Product Procurement (Non-Capital Items)* (1-2 points)

Intent:

To encourage and increase the procurement of recycled content and other environmentally preferable products (EPP¹²).

Local Government Requirements

Tier 1: (1 point)

Adopt an EPP policy for the Local Government's operational procurement budget. The policy must include specific target products with recycled content and budgetary spending goals.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Demonstrate the procurement of products that meet EPP requirements for a minimum of 10 percent of the operational procurement budget.

Potential Strategies

- Utilize an open database of 'preferred' alternative chemicals, materials, and processes to help companies reformulate products to make them more circular, and to help local residents and organizations choose and create more circular products
- Establish procurement guidelines to label products as compostable
- Encourage purchasing of recycled content, energy efficient and non-toxic products for use by the Company
- Ban use of certain hazardous materials in products used by the Local Government
- Require or encourage use of compostable plastic alternatives by the Local Government

¹² EPP criteria should conform with EPA or US Department of Energy or SMaRT Sustainable Product Standard guidelines for environmentally preferable products as outlined in Federal Executive Order 13693, section 3 (i) or demonstrated through life cycle assessment. Products that are certified to Version 4 of the SMaRT Sustainable Product Standard count 2x non-certified products.

WGP Credit 6: *Sustainable Capital and Utility Procurement* (1-3 points)

Intent:

To establish energy efficiency and sustainability requirements for new purchases of capital equipment, construction, infrastructure, and utilities used by the Local Government.

Local Government Requirements

1 point: Implement at least 3 of the bulleted items below

2 points: Implement at least 6 of the bulleted items below

3 points: Implement at least 9 of the bulleted items below

- Maintain a sustainable purchasing program covering capital equipment associated with administration of the Local Government's solid waste program with a high cost per unit that are not regularly replaced through the course of operations. This equipment includes, but is not limited to:
 - Vehicles & Equipment (e.g. Collection vehicles, transfer vehicles, yellow iron)
 - Containers
 - Office equipment and appliances
- Maintain a sustainable purchasing program covering the waste management program's administration facilities total energy consumption through the course of operations.
- Register waste department facilities over 5,000 ft² with Energy Star or equivalent energy benchmarking systems and provide monthly energy use for at least the 12 previous continuous months.
- Purchase Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) or equivalent sufficient to offset emissions from electricity use associated with solid waste operations.¹³
- Offset Scope 1 & Scope 2 carbon emissions of solid waste operations through Carbon Offsets¹⁴
 - For remaining Scope 1 emissions or for all Scope 1 & Scope 2 carbon emissions, purchase carbon offsets that are Green-e-Climate certified or equivalent
- Landfill methane capture system or landfill gas recovery monitoring system
- Supply 10 percent of total energy of vehicles and facilities from on-site renewables (wind, hydro, solar, biomass etc.) and/or renewable fuels as defined in credits SWC Credit: ***Alternative Fueled Solid Waste Collection Vehicles***, PCR Credit: ***Clean and Efficient Material Recovery and Organics Processing Facilities*** or PCD Credit: ***Renewable or alternative fueled On-site Mobile Equipment for Disposal Facilities***. Low-carbon or alternative fuels as defined in these credits e.g., natural gas recovered from the local waste stream, may count toward this requirement, but are discounted by 50%.

¹³ RECs purchased from the grid must be Green-e-Energy certified or equivalent from sources that have come online in the last 10 years

¹⁴ There are many equivalent and acceptable carbon offset programs that achieve the same outcome as Green-e-Energy certified and Green-e-Climate certified programs. Other programs used for carbon offsets or RECs will be reviewed and approved by the SWEEP certification team.

- Credit assignment options: Electricity generation, cogeneration, heat generation, or cleaned and compressed for mobile equipment or collection equipment
- Procure at least one Alternative Fueled Vehicle as defined by: SWC Credit: *Alternative Fueled Solid Waste Collection Vehicles*
- Procure at least one Alternative Fueled Vehicle as defined by: PCR Credit: *Renewable or Alternative Fueled On-site Mobile Equipment for Recovery Facilities*
- Procure at least one Alternative Fueled Vehicle as defined by: PCD Credit: *Renewable or Alternative Fueled On-site Mobile Equipment for Disposal Facilities*
- Certify all construction or renovation projects of waste processing facilities in excess of 5,000 square feet to LEED Certified or greater under version 3 and above, or LEED Silver for version 2 or equivalent. SWEEP will review all proposed equivalent certification programs.

Potential Strategies

- Submit monthly energy bills to Energy Star to see if your facility qualifies
- Quantify Scope 1 & Scope 2 carbon emissions.
- Purchase offsets from qualifying programs for renewable energy and/or carbon emissions
- Create requirements for purchase of sustainable vehicles and other necessary equipment
- Evaluate sites in the local service area for renewable energy potential
- Design and certify local waste management and support facilities to green building standards, such as LEED.¹⁵
- Increase percentage of energy that comes from renewables that is supplied to Local Government buildings
- Certifying entity must demonstrate equivalence to the referenced standards
- Quantifying scope 3 emissions qualifies as an innovation credit

¹⁵ “Designed to” LEED or other certification programs does not count toward this credit, only certification is recognized.

WGP Credit 7: *Economic Assessment of Solid Waste Management Program* (2 points)

Intent:

Provide transparency around the costs and benefits of solid waste management programs.

Local Government Requirements

- Calculate and publish total (residential and non-residential) solid waste program costs per ton managed by the local government or per household or per capita or per campus building.
- Provide breakouts in the supporting analysis as follows:¹⁶
 - Total solid waste management cost per ton.
 - Collection costs per ton:
 - Mixed MSW (Black Bin; residential and non-residential)
 - Single-stream or dual-stream recyclables (Blue Bin)
 - Green Waste/Food Waste (Green/Brown/Yellow Bin)
 - Household Hazardous Waste (including drop off programs)
 - Bulk items
 - C&D Debris
 - Industrial plastics
 - Industrial metals
 - Disposal costs per ton.
 - Gross
 - Net (post-sale of output, e.g., energy sales)
 - Recycling processing costs per ton:
 - Gross
 - Net (post-sale of output, e.g., commodity sales)
 - Organic processing costs per ton:
 - Gross
 - Net (post-sale of output, e.g., soil amendment sales)
- Estimate impact from waste management program, including indirect and induced effects, on:
 - government employment and
 - economic activity

Potential Strategies:

- Track costs for different aspects of the campus, Local Government waste management: collection, processing, disposal, etc.
- Calculate costs for different aspects of the government's waste management, specifically disposal practices

¹⁶ NOTE: these details will not be published or shared by SWEEP.

- Include line items for maintenance, labor and customer service. Figures at this level of detail do not need to be reported.
- Make the top-level cost figures available to residents in the Local Government's jurisdiction
Provide total costs of each program (recycling, trash, compost) per Household or per capita
- Provide comparison for costs of each program per year to local residents
- Utilize employment and economic benefit multipliers as developed by ISRI or other industry research on the benefits of sustainable materials management.

WGP Public Participation KPI

WGP Credit 8: *Education and Engagement Programs on Litter & Source Reduction and Reuse* (2 points)

Intent:

Reduce litter and waste generation and disposal through public education and Local Government training programs.

Local Government Requirements

Implement Local Government Employee Training Programs.¹⁷

Publish and promote online resources that provide an overview of the overall waste management program and the material management process occurring at facilities owned by the Local Government.

Educational Program(s) on Inbound Contamination

Develop education and/or information programs on inbound contamination. Demonstrate that the information can reach at least 80 percent of the customers in the Local Government's jurisdiction.

- Provide on-site public educational tours of the waste management facilities operated by the Local Government.
- Conduct Local Government staff training programs on waste prevention.
- Training programs to teach EPP (environmentally preferable products) requirements guidelines in Local Government procurement.
- Develop procurement collaboratives to share guidelines for EPP with procurement departments of various departments or other institutions, such as local school districts, as well as retail establishments.
- In the case that a city/county does not have the capacity to create these programs, partner with a product stewardship organization(s), such as PSI or NSAC for support.
- Post the plan and strategy on the Local Government website.
- Send out regular emails and links to the EPP section of the Local Government's internal website.
- Social media campaign/marketing on multiple platforms

Education Programs on Source Reduction, Reuse, and Disposal

Develop education and/or information programs on source reduction, reuse, and proper materials disposal. Demonstrate that the information can reach at least 80 percent of the customers in the Local Government's jurisdiction.

The educational components should include the following:

- A website and physical materials, e.g., calendars & refrigerator magnets, that are regularly distributed and posted in public areas.
- Social media campaign/marketing on multiple platforms

¹⁷ Education & Training to encompass all facilities (MRFs, Landfills, Transfer Stations, WTE, Gasification, etc.).

- Example tools and materials include school modules, educational activities designed for both children and adults, downloadable PDF posters clearly listing materials accepted in recycling streams, etc. e.g., Marking storm drains that empty directly into local water bodies.
- Demonstrate that information about the program is accessible to 80 percent or more of the community.
- Establish ongoing litter prevention and reduction efforts which may include any of all of the following: government or civic based community organization, youth and adult education programs including behavior change campaigns such as messaging in the community (i.e., slogans such as “Don’t Mess with Texas”).
 - **Option 1:** Pursue as an independent entity.
 - **Option 2:** Partner with an organization (i.e., non-profit)
- Promote litter prevention through sponsored area cleanups (i.e., parks, beaches, highways, etc.).

Required Information:

Information on how to reduce material consumption and channels for reuse of materials:

- Current list of materials accepted for curbside collection (link to another credit later on).
- Current list of materials not accepted for curbside collection.
- Drop-off locations for materials not accepted curbside.
- Information on household hazardous waste.

In the case that a business, or city/county does not have the capacity/ability to create these materials, Partner with Environmental Education groups such as the state’s Recycling Organization or Department for Environmental Quality; or other nonprofits.

Potential Strategies

- Ballot bins (fun questions for people to vote with their litter)
- Slogans that curb littering behavior (e.g., Don’t Mess with Texas; “*Dunna Chuck Bruck*”: sample programs that put the community first in litter prevention campaign.)
- Promote education programs that:
 - Encourage, amplify, and reinforce residents to utilize waste reduction infrastructure, such as ‘tool libraries’, ‘repair cafes’, and corporate sponsored programs (e.g., Patagonia repair bus), etc.
 - Teach the or local community how to reduce consumption and reuse products
 - Excess packaging; product durability; buying used, etc.
 - Post notice of products available for reuse, etc. online and in Waste Exchanges
- Education programs on Food waste Prevention & reuse geared toward children, families, businesses, and residents of the surrounding area
- Public information on existing partnerships/programs with companies that handle hard-to-recycle items (e.g., <https://earth911.com>, Best Buy’s TVs recycling programs, Terracycle, etc.)

WGP Credit 9: Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)/Small Quantity Generator Chemical Waste Reduction and Engagement Program (1 point)

Intent:

Educate the public on existing HHW infrastructure and available avenues for HHW reduction in order to minimize potential negative human health impacts and pollution of the natural environment from improper HHW handling and disposal.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate that information about household hazardous waste and small quantity generator (“SQG”)¹⁸ chemical waste programs has the potential to reach 80-90 percent of customers within the Local Government's jurisdiction.

Methods of reaching customers with HHW best practice information include:

Website; Newsletter; bill stuffers; social media; outdoor advertising; tours; public presentations and event participation

Best practice information includes the following:

- Materials considered household hazardous or SQG chemical waste and how to properly dispose (i.e., drop-off or pickup) through an engaging platform (i.e., website).
- Educational materials about the proper disposal of batteries and eWaste, sharps, and Universal Waste.
- Lists of products that meet the EPA [Safer Choice Standard](https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products) (<https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products>)
- Activities, lessons, and/or worksheets that explain household hazardous/chemical waste and the danger of exposure designed for children.

Potential Strategies:

- Develop a hazardous/chemical waste website & publish the URL to the community.
- Include ‘bill stuffers’ for utility (electricity, water, sewer, trash, etc.) bills, tax bills or other regular communication with Company customers.
- Post notices in local print, visual and online media.
- Release information on best practices through newsletters.
- “Batteries don’t belong” in the MSW stream marketing campaign
- Develop a separate supply chain and for batteries with safety recommendations:
 - e.g. terminals taped so they can’t short out

¹⁸ Small or Very Small Quantity Generator as defined for RCRA in 40 CFR § 262.13
<https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/categories-hazardous-waste-generators>

3. Solid Waste Collection (SWC) (18 Possible Points)

Waste collection refers to the process of gathering, consolidating, and transporting solid waste, encompassing considerations related to waste receptacles and hauling practices. Waste collection tends to be distinct between commercial, institutional, residential, and away-from-home waste generation points.

The SWC requirements of SWEEP take into account four key performance indicators (KPI) related to Solid Waste Collection:

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Environmental Performance
- Economic Performance
- Working Conditions and Community Impact

SWC Efficiency and Effectiveness KPI

SWC Credit 1: Alternative Collection Options for Recyclable and Compostable Products and Materials (1 point)

Intent:

Provide a variety of collection methods for recyclable and discarded materials.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate access for 90 percent or more of Local Government customers to one or more of the following collection options for Recyclable Materials and Compostable Materials:

- Curbside programs: (frequency, scope)
 - E.g., Weekly pick-up of recyclables.
- Drop-off programs/facilities (accessibility; proximity; hours of operation)
- Street bins: coverage, servicing, materials collected, color-coding/identification

Potential Strategies:

- Identify the number of residents covered by operating curbside programs
- Site and support drop-off facilities in convenient locations
- Adopt standardized color-coding and labeling of private and public carts and bins
 - Conversion to standardized colors and/or labels can occur in conjunction with retirement of existing non-conforming color-coded containers

SWC Environmental Performance KPI

SWC Credit 2: Energy and Emissions Optimization of Solid Waste Collection (1-2 points)

Intent:

Reduce fuel consumption and lower air emissions resulting from waste collection.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate Collection Fleet Fuel Economy, Collection Route Efficiency or Fleet Criteria Emissions of solid waste (including MSW, Bulky Waste, Recyclables, Organics and C&D) collection per the following criteria:

	Option 1	Or	Option 2
Tier 1: (1 Point)	Demonstrate Collection Fleet Fuel Economy of 3.5 miles per gallon of diesel equivalent. ¹⁹ AND ²⁰ Demonstrate Transfer ²¹ Vehicle fleet fuel economy of 6.7 miles per gallon of diesel equivalent.		Demonstrate Collection Route Efficiency of <2.8 annual gallons per ton of waste collected. AND Demonstrate Transfer Vehicle fleet fuel economy of 6.7 miles per gallon of diesel equivalent.
Tier 2: (+1 point)	Demonstrate Collection Fleet Fuel Economy of 3.75 miles per gallon of diesel equivalent. AND ²² Demonstrate Transfer Vehicle fleet fuel economy of 7.3 miles per gallon of diesel equivalent. ²³		Demonstrate Collection Route Efficiency of <2.55 annual gallons per ton of waste collected. AND Demonstrate Transfer Vehicle fleet fuel economy of 7.3 miles per gallon of diesel equivalent.

OR

Demonstrate that annual Collection and Transfer Fleet emissions, as applicable²⁴, meet Federal Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) Standards for Heavy Duty Highway Engines in 40 CFR 88.105-94

Potential Strategies

- Baseline: MPG or MPGGE (Gallon-gasoline equivalents)
- GGE conversion factors: <https://epact.energy.gov/fuel-conversion-factors>
- If the Local Government does not own the transfer station and does not control the transfer vehicles, this credit does not apply to those vehicles, although Innovation credit may be available if the Local Government works with the contracted company to implement this credit.

¹⁹ This requirement is optional for jurisdictions that contract out the collection function. Demonstrating that the contracted hauler meets SWEEP requirements can receive credit, in addition to innovation credit.

²⁰ This requirement is optional for jurisdictions that contract out the transfer function. Demonstrating that the contracted hauler meets SWEEP requirements can receive credit, in addition to innovation credit.

²¹ "Transfer" is defined as moving consolidated materials from a Transfer Station to final disposition.

²² This requirement is NOT optional for local government that contract out the transfer function.

²³ Diesel gallon equivalents = gasoline gallon equivalents * 1.155

²⁴ Jurisdictions without collection and/or transfer fleets do not need to meet the requirement. Those that demonstrate that their contracted fleets meet the requirements receive full credit, plus Innovation.

SWC Credit 3: *Alternative Fueled Solid Waste Collection Vehicles* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Reduce atmospheric emissions associated with collection and transportation of solid waste and promote renewable and low-carbon intensity alternatives to non-renewable transportation fuels.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate, on a percentage basis, the use of renewable or low-emission fuels in the solid waste collection vehicles. The percentage of alternative fuel use can be determined on the basis of one of the following:

- the fraction of the Collection vehicle fleet (“fleet”), calculated separately
- the fraction of total fuel use for the fleet, or
- the fraction of annual miles traveled for the fleet.

Tier 1: (1 point)

Demonstrate that 25% of the collection vehicle fleet utilizes Renewable fuels²⁵ using ONE of the following methods:

- the number of vehicles exclusively using Renewable fuel;
- Total annual Renewable fuel use as a percentage of total fuel;
- The total miles traveled by Renewable fuel fleet vehicles as a percentage of total miles traveled.

OR

Demonstrate that 50 percent or more of the collection vehicle fleet utilizes Alternative/Low-Carbon fuels based on ONE of the following:

- the number of vehicles exclusively using Alternative/Low-Carbon fuel;
- the total annual Alternative/Low-Carbon fuel use as a percentage of total fuel;
- the total miles traveled by Alternative/Low-Carbon fuel fleet vehicles as a percentage of total miles traveled.

²⁵ Please see the Certification Manual for full definitions. Renewable fuels are defined by the US EPA as “Biomass-based diesel [that] meet[s] a 50% lifecycle GHG reduction; Cellulosic biofuel [that is] produced from cellulose, hemicellulose, or lignin and...meet[s] a 60% lifecycle GHG reduction; Advanced biofuel [is] produced from qualifying renewable biomass (except corn starch) and...meet a 50% GHG reduction.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/overview-renewable-fuel-standard> “Low Carbon Intensity” fuels include landfill methane and corn-based ethanol. Methane from landfill facilities operated as “bioreactors” do not qualify for this credit. “Alternative fuels include gaseous fuels such as hydrogen, natural gas, and propane; alcohols such as ethanol, methanol, and butanol; vegetable and waste-derived oils; and electricity. These fuels may be used in a dedicated system that burns a single fuel, or in a mixed system with other fuels including traditional gasoline or diesel, such as in hybrid-electric or flexible fuel vehicles.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/alternative-fuels>. Liquid fuels derived from plastics that could otherwise be recovered for recycling do not count toward this credit.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Demonstrate that 40% of the collection vehicle fleet utilizes Renewable fuels²⁶ using ONE of the following methods:

- the number of vehicles exclusively using Renewable fuel;
- the total annual Renewable fuel use as a percentage of total fuel;
- the total miles traveled by Renewable fuel fleet vehicles as a percentage of total miles traveled.

OR

Demonstrate that 80 percent or more of the collection vehicle fleet utilizes Alternative/Low-Carbon fuels based on ONE of the following:

- the number of vehicles exclusively using Alternative/Low-Carbon fuel;
- Total annual Alternative/Low-Carbon fuel use as a percentage of total fuel;
- The total miles traveled by Alternative/Low-Carbon fuel fleet vehicles as a percentage of total miles traveled.

Potential Strategies

- Electric collection vehicles
- Utilize landfill methane
- Utilize natural gas
- Utilize Digester methane
- Diesel Hybrid collection vehicles
- Liquid fuels derived from solid waste

²⁶ Please see the Certification Manual for full definitions. Renewable fuels are defined by the US EPA as “Biomass-based diesel [that] meet[s] a 50% lifecycle GHG reduction; Cellulosic biofuel [that is] produced from cellulose, hemicellulose, or lignin and...meet[s] a 60% lifecycle GHG reduction; Advanced biofuel [is] produced from qualifying renewable biomass (except corn starch) and...meet a 50% GHG reduction.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/overview-renewable-fuel-standard> “Low Carbon Intensity” fuels include landfill methane and corn-based ethanol. Methane from landfill facilities operated as “bioreactors” do not qualify for this credit. “Alternative fuels include gaseous fuels such as hydrogen, natural gas, and propane; alcohols such as ethanol, methanol, and butanol; vegetable and waste-derived oils; and electricity. These fuels may be used in a dedicated system that burns a single fuel, or in a mixed system with other fuels including traditional gasoline or diesel, such as in hybrid-electric or flexible fuel vehicles.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/alternative-fuels>. Liquid fuels derived from plastics that could otherwise be recovered for recycling do not count toward this credit.

SWC Credit 4: Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Small Quantity Generator Chemical Waste Collection Infrastructure (1 point)

Intent:

To ensure proper handling and disposal of HHW and Small Quantity Generator (“SQG”)²⁷ chemical waste by the Local Government entity and greater community, preventing negative human health impacts and pollution of the natural environment.

Local Government Requirements

Comply with the requirements of WGP HHW Education credit.

AND

Implement an exclusive program that handles household hazardous waste as defined by the EPA and involves RCRA Subtitle C regulation, as well as household medical waste

- Demonstrate accessibility to 95 percent of residents or customers served. Services may consist of “drop off locations,” “to-house pick-up services,” and/or recycling services. All of the following must be considered in program development
 - Batteries
 - Light bulbs
 - Paint
 - Cleaning products (i.e., drain, oven, glass, etc.)
 - Automobile fluids (i.e., motor oil, brake fluid, antifreeze, etc.)
 - Pesticides, herbicides and insecticides
 - Other derivatives of HHW sub-programs will be taken into consideration upon review
 - Household medical waste including but not limited to:
 - Prescription drugs
 - Needles and sharps
 - Blood-soiled materials
 - Chemotherapy residues

Potential Strategies:

- Publish collection drives and locations of facilities or programs that accept HHW or collect it at the residents’ door.
- Support or facilitate mail-back programs.

²⁷ Small or Very Small Quantity Generator as defined for RCRA in 40 CFR § 262.13
<https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/categories-hazardous-waste-generators>

SWC Credit 5: *Minimizing Emissions from Transfer Stations* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Reduce the environmental footprint of transfer stations.

Local Government Requirements

Good Neighbor Practices (GNP)²⁸:

Implement at least 4 GNPs: 1 point

- Has a system in place to receive and address comments from the community.
- Limit Idle Time²⁹ to:
 - 10 minutes for Transfer Stations (TS) managing less than 100 tons/day
 - 15 minutes for TS managing between 100 and 500 tons/day
 - 20 minutes for TS managing over 500 tons/day
- Demonstrate that the transfer station has the capacity to store and/or treat³⁰ 100 percent of onsite runoff, including any run-on from adjacent property, prior to discharge to the sewer system, street, or any nearby waterway.
- Demonstrate that litter control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite.
- Demonstrate that dust control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite.
- Demonstrate that vermin control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite.
- Minimize overnight waste stockpiles to control odors in non-emergency situations.
- Demonstrate that noise levels do not exceed 70 decibels (dB) during the daytime and 50 dB as measured at the facility property line.
- Install filtration on exhaust ventilation system to the outdoors rated for and designed to capture >80 percent of PM 2.5 or smaller particles for any enclosed facilities.
- New Transfer Stations are not built within the designated Buffer Zone of “sensitive receptors”³¹, or residences, schools, parks, prisons, playgrounds, nursing homes, day care centers, or other places where people live or congregate. The Buffer Zone requirement does not apply to Existing Facilities.³²

²⁸ Each bullet point represents a “Good Neighbor Practice”.

²⁹ Idle time refers to time in the queue to be weighed or between the scales and the tip floor. It does not include tipping time. See Certification Manual for idling guidelines in cold weather conditions.

³⁰ This includes retention ponds, swales, oil, and grit separators for stormwater drains, and other best practice stormwater measures consistent with NPDES, local laws and any other requirements.

³¹ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines a sensitive receptor as any ecological entity that is particularly vulnerable to environmental stressors. This includes plants, animals (including endangered and threatened species), habitats, and ecosystems. Sensitive receptors are often considered in environmental assessments to ensure that protective measures are in place to mitigate potential harm.

³² Existing Facilities are defined as projects that are operational prior to the Local Government applying for SWEEP Certification.

Population Density	Rural: <100 people/mi ²	Suburban: 101 – 1,000 people/mi ²	Urban: >1,000 people/mi ²
Litter Control Measures (inspected and recovered within 100 yards) AND	1 mile along primary access roads	1/2 mile along primary access roads	1/4 miles along primary access roads
Dust Control Measures (inspected and recovered within 100 yards) AND:	1 mile along primary access roads	1/2 mile along primary access roads	1/4 miles along primary access roads
New Project Buffer Zone	900 Feet	500 Feet	250 Feet

Mobile and Processing Equipment (+1 point)

- For 50 percent of mobile equipment utilized on site or 50 percent of total fuel consumption, Utilize:
 - low-sulfur diesel fuel; and/or,
 - fuels that comply with SWC ***Alternative Fueled Solid Waste Collection and Transfer Vehicles***; and/or,
 - catalytic and particulate pollution control devices; and/or,
 - diesel engines certified as Low NOx (<0.02 g NOx/bhp-hr) by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

Potential Strategies

- Utilize low emission on site mobile equipment.

SWC Credit 6: *Minimizing Emissions from Fleet Maintenance Facilities* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Reduce the environmental footprint of fleet maintenance facilities.

Local Government Requirements

- Implement at least 4 Good Neighbor Practices: 1 point;
- Implement at least 8 Good Neighbor Practices +1 point

Good Neighbor Practices (GNP)³³:

- Limit Idle Time³⁴ to 5 minutes
- For facilities that generate more than 800 lbs. of VOC emissions per calendar year, limit air emissions from vehicle painting consistent with the requirements of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1151.³⁵
- Demonstrate that the fleet maintenance facility allows no recovered vehicle fluids to be discharged and has the capacity to store and/or treat prior to discharge to the sewer system, street or any nearby waterway:
 - 100 percent of onsite runoff, including any run-on from adjacent property,
 - Effluent from vehicle washing
- Demonstrate recovery and reuse of a minimum of 50% of water used for vehicle washing.
- Recovers and recycles or properly manages, consistent with the requirements of Federal, State and Local regulations governing these materials, all vehicle fluids captured during maintenance including:
 - engine oil
 - hydraulic/brake fluids
 - refrigerants
 - other fluids as required
 - packaging of above elements
- Recovers and recycles or properly manages, consistent with the requirements of Federal, State and Local regulations governing these materials, waste generated from onsite maintenance activities including,
 - tires
 - filters

³³ Each bullet point represents a “Good Neighbor Practice”.

³⁴ Idle Time refers to time when the engine is on, but the vehicle is not moving about the facility or being serviced or maintained in a way that requires the engine to be engaged. See Certification Manual for idling guidelines in cold weather conditions.

³⁵ Documentation from local air quality management district submittals is acceptable, so long as the performance requirement is the same.

- belts, hoses, etc.
- other consumables as required
- packaging of above elements
- Implement the safety, training and HOS requirements as applicable of
 - SWC Credit 8: ***Commitment to Safe Working Conditions***
 - SWC Credit 9: ***OSHA Compliant Practices and Safe Vehicle Processes***
- Demonstrate that litter control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite.
- Demonstrate that dust control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite.
- Demonstrate that vermin control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite.
- Demonstrate that noise levels do not exceed 70 decibels (dB) during the daytime and 50 dB as measured at the facility property line
- New Fleet Maintenance Facilities are not built within the designated Buffer Zone of “sensitive receptors”³⁶, or residences, schools, parks, prisons, playgrounds, nursing homes, day care centers, or other places people live or congregate. The Buffer Zone requirement does not apply to Existing Facilities.³⁷

Population Density	Rural: <100 people/mi ²	Suburban: 101 – 1,000 people/mi ²	Urban: >1,000 people/mi ²
Litter Control Measures (inspected and recovered within 100 yards) AND	1 miles along primary access roads	1/2 mile along primary access roads	1/4 miles along primary access roads
Dust Control Measures (inspected and recovered within 100 yards) AND:	1 miles along primary access roads	1/2 mile along primary access roads	1/4 miles along primary access roads
New Project Buffer Zone ³⁸	900 Feet	500 Feet	250 Feet

Potential Strategies

- Install or regularly test with sound level meters
- Daily patrol for litter and accumulated dust
- “extra credit” bio-based hydraulic fluids

³⁶ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines a sensitive receptor as any ecological entity that is particularly vulnerable to environmental stressors. This includes plants, animals (including endangered and threatened species), habitats, and ecosystems. Sensitive receptors are often considered in environmental assessments to ensure that protective measures are in place to mitigate potential harm.

³⁷ Existing Facilities are defined as projects that are operational prior to the Local Government or Company applying for SWEEP Certification.

³⁸ Buffer zone distances refer to distances of the property line of the New Project from the property line of Sensitive Receptors.

SWC Economic Performance KPI

SWC Credit 7: Solid Waste Collection Cost Transparency (2 points)

Intent:

Provide transparency to the cost of collecting and transporting waste materials.

Local Government Requirements

- Calculate the cost per ton, cost per household or per capita (single and multifamily) for collecting and transporting discarded materials, including mixed waste, recycling and organic material, within the Local Government's jurisdiction.
 - *Collecting* is from curbside to transfer station or final disposition
 - *Transporting* is from transfer station to MRF/Landfill/Compost facility
- Break down cost by waste stream. MSW, Bulky, C&D, Recycling, Universal Waste, etc.
- Demonstrate how costs are covered.
- Make summary cost data (see Potential Strategies, below) available to waste customers within the service area of the Local Government.

Potential Strategies:

- Include performance/service and labor rate issues.
- Evaluate whether there are cross subsidies between residential and non-residential collection.
- Only top-level costs need to be presented, e.g., MSW collection cost = \$75/ton; Recycling Collection \$120/ton or \$4.37/household/month. Breakouts of these costs are not required.
- Indicate whether commercial material collected is compacted after collection and before disposal.
- Indicate how waste is separated by the Company.

SWC Working Conditions & Community Impact KPI

SWC Credit 8: *Commitment to Safe Working Conditions* (2 points)

Intent:

Ensure worker safety and health outcomes during daily waste collection through hazard identification and remediation and making worker protection a part of organizational culture.

Local Government Requirements

Increase operational oversight of safety resources and safety awareness in the collection and transport of waste materials (MSW and C&D). Priority must be taken to protect workers from danger or hazardous conditions on the job, including on the street, inside buildings, inside the vehicle cab, and behind/beside the vehicle, in fleet maintenance facilities, and during hauling and discharging or off-loading material by undertaking all of the following actions, as applicable:

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Implement the appropriate and/or applicable fire safety requirements from OSHA, NFPA and state level standards for waste management facilities.³⁹
- Make available and complete all employee safety and health training programs that are appropriate for the methods of collection utilized. Training programs must be conducted in the primary language of the attending employees.
- Provide safety resources to managers and employees that advise all employees of health and safety hazards they may reasonably expect to face in their daily activities and the importance of safety in general.
- Comply with ANSI Z245 and/or comparable local/state safety standards as applicable.
- Compile documentation of job hazards and recommended mitigation for each employees' tasks, which is reviewed by an Employee Safety Committee.
- Drivers should work no more than 12 hours per day. Drivers should not work more than 6 days consecutively except in situations of responding to *Force Majeure* events, or follow state/federal hours of service regulations, whichever is more stringent.
- Drivers should limit hours driven consecutively.
 - A 30-minute non-driving break should take place between the 4th and 6th hour of driving.

OR

- A mandatory non-driving break totaling 30 minutes shall be taken, except during the first or last hour of the shift.

Tier 2 (+1 point)

- Complete and record Risk Assessments for all work tasks using ANSI Standard Z10, OSHA 3071, or OSHA's recommended practices.

³⁹ These requirements include a written fire safety plan and associated training, adherence to relevant guidance in NFPA Standards 1, 10, 13, 401 & 704. Please refer to the Certification Manual for more detail.

- Any identified violations must be remediated
 - http://www.osha.gov/shpguidelines/docs/OSHA_SHP_Recommended_Practices.pdf
- Monitor, record, report, and analyze work related illnesses, worker fatalities and injuries utilizing OSHA 300 logs and/or State OSHA logs, or equivalent. All incidents should be investigated, regardless of the extent of injury, illness, or property damage.
 - Follow procedures in OSHA Field and Safety and Health Manual Appendix B Hazard Reporting and Incident Investigation Worksheet or comparable State procedures if equivalent.
- Regularly hold employee led Safety Committee meetings during paid hours. Ensure that Safety Committee members receive the necessary safety training to enable them to effectively perform their required functions as committee members. Ensure employees have the opportunity to communicate opinions on the effectiveness of worker safety regulations and be able to voice suggestions for the improvement of these programs. Participation means that workers are involved in establishing, operating, evaluating, and improving safety and health programs. All participants involved in collection at a worksite should participate, including those employed by contractors, subcontractors, and temporary staffing agencies.
 - Safety Committee members must be democratically elected
 - Safety Committee members must have proper, secured storage for OSHA 300 logs as these logs often contain sensitive employee data.
 - All copies of the employer's OSHA 300 Illness and Injury logs, or equivalent, are automatically shared with the Safety Committee in a timely fashion
 - The results of a Safety Committee observation can only be used to discipline workers if there is an observation of illegal or recklessly endangering activity.
- No worker shall be punished or discriminated against in any way for refusing work that they believe in good faith to be immediately dangerous or for bringing health and safety violations to the attention of any person.

Potential Strategies:

- Convene employee/participant led Safety Committee.
- Conduct an OSHA-level audit of driving practice.
- Review past safety records to identify potential problems to remedy.
- Participate in industry Safety Summits and other safety conferences and workshops.
- Provide safety resources to employees that include but are not limited to: SWANA's 5 to Stay Alive materials, Safety Monday, Slow Down to Get Around information, EPA's Heat Rest Shade info.
- Review Certification Manual for discussion of key job hazards and potential mitigation

SWC Credit 9: OSHA Compliant Practices and Safe Vehicle Processes (1-3 points)

Intent:

Reduce collection vehicle accidents and worker injuries.

Local Government Requirements

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Implement an ongoing safety and equipment usage training program that demonstrates compliance with all Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Vehicle and Driver safety requirements, including applicable drug and alcohol testing.
- Disconnect safety incentive programs from “accident-free” periods.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Collection vehicle accident prevention:

- Hold pre-dispatch safety meetings “Safety tailgates” and pre-trip safety checklist review
 - Paid shift hours and schedules should accommodate these safety reviews.
- Develop and implement a policy on distracted driving, including limitation on Smartphone or other handheld devices for drivers.
- Utilize vehicle monitoring devices to analyze Safety Leading Indicators
 - The first offense shall result in training, unless there was extreme disregard for the law and taught safety practices. The second offense shall result in discipline.
 - No employee or driver shall be discharged if such discharge is based solely upon information received from GPS, telematics, or any successor system that similarly tracks or surveils a driver’s movements, unless he/she engages in dishonesty (any intentional act or omission by an employee where they intend to defraud the government) or extreme disregard for the law or safety practices, as set by the employee led safety committees.
- Truck maintenance requirements as set forth in ANSI Z245.
- Install proximity detectors/detection systems for vehicles, personnel, and physical obstructions.
- Equip trucks with side-guards to prevent pedestrian/bicyclist run overs.
- Ensure that pick-up occurs on the side of the street with the prevailing flow of traffic for the lane.
- No vehicle or personnel crosses traffic to pick up waste.

Tier 3: (+1 point)

Conduct an OSHA-Level audit by a qualified auditor.

Qualified auditors include:

- Federal or State OSHA, or OSHA equivalent inspector
- A Certified Safety Professional (CSP) or Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) certified insurance inspector

- A union CIH or equivalent corporate EHS safety official
- Full abatement of all OSHA incidents reported

OR

ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE PATHWAY (3 points):

Demonstrate participation in the OSHA VPP program at the Merit or Star level.

Potential Strategies:

- Automated arms to reduce injuries
- Install lighting and strobes; one standard wheeled tote of limited size

SWC Credit 10: *Commitment to Living Wage* (1 point)

Intent:

Increase career commitment and employee retention through good remuneration and benefits.

Local Government Requirements

Paying employees a living wage with good health insurance offers multiple benefits to Waste Management Companies, including the ability to attract and retain quality, high productivity employees, a burnished image with the public, and the competitive advantage of being economically sustainable in the long run. To fulfill this credit, applicants must:

- Ensure all workers are paid not less than a Living Wage, including hourly wage, benefits, and paid overtime OR an Alternative Living Wage set at 150% of the Minimum Wage.⁴⁰
 - To determine the Living Wage for your region, utilize [MIT's Living Wage Calculator](#) or [EPI's Family Budget Calculator](#). If you are using a living wage calculator, the calculated Living Wage should not exceed the Median Household Income⁴¹.
- Provide workers with a health insurance plan that has the characteristics of an Affordable Care Act qualified plan for pre-existing conditions, young adult coverage, cancellation and appeals, benefit limits, and preventative care. The health insurance plan should also have, at a minimum, an actuarial value of 90% that covers all employees and family members, with no employee/family payroll premium deductions or waiting periods.

⁴⁰ As will be further described in the Certification Manual, the Living Wage is calculated as follows--Either use the referenced living wage calculators or use the Alternative Living wage. The Alternative Living Wage is defined as 150% of the Minimum Wage. The Minimum Wage is defined as the average of 1) the existing Federal Minimum Wage of \$7.25/hr., indexed to current dollars using the CPI deflator (https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm) OR \$11.02 and 2) Fifteen dollars (\$15/hr.). For the Pilot Program, the Applicable Minimum Wage is calculated as \$13.00/hr. The Alternative Living Wage for SWEEP is calculated to be \$19.50/hr.

⁴¹ SWEEP uses a Median Household Income of \$77,719 defined by the Census of the United States. <https://www.census.gov/search-results.html?q=median+income&page=1&stateGeo=none&searchtype=web&cssp=SERP&charset=UTF-8>

4. Post Collection Recovery (PCR) (29 Possible Points)

Post-collection Recovery refers to practices aimed at avoiding landfilling of solid waste by preserving and utilizing its residual material value. There are several methods of recovery including mechanical recycling, chemical recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, energy recovery, in addition to emerging novel recovery methods. Waste sortation is often prerequisite to each of these processes, depending on collection methods. Waste disposal refers to landfilling practices.

The PCR requirements of SWEEP take into account four key performance indicators (KPI) related to Post Collection Recovery:

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Environmental Performance
- Economic Performance
- Working Conditions and Community Impact

PCR Efficiency and Effectiveness KPI

PCR Minimum Performance Credit 1: *Minimum Diversion/Maximum Per Capita Disposal Rate (No points)*

Intent:

To encourage the acceptance of a wide range of materials and to promote the production of marketable commodities with the highest percentage of captured product and lowest percentage of residue, consistent with local and/or state policies and regulations.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate that at least 25% of the MSW, including C&D, generated in the jurisdiction controlled by the company is diverted from disposal.

OR

Demonstrate using the SWEEP calculation methodology that per capita waste (MSW + C&D) disposal is below 6.4 lbs. per day.

Potential Strategies:

- Develop and promote community-wide material recovery programs for residential & commercial MSW and C&D
- Measure, document and report recovery volumes
- Engage and educate local residents and commercial waste generators around material reduction, reuse and recycling

PCR Credit 1: Material Recovery Optimization (1-2 points)

Intent:

To encourage the recovery of fiber, metal, glass and plastic and to promote the production of marketable commodities with the highest percentage of captured product and lowest percentage of residue.

Local Government Requirements

- **EXCLUDES Food waste and green waste.**
- For each material processing technology owned, operated, or utilized by the Local Government: Maintain facility uptime of 90 percent or better⁴² and:

Facility	Tier 1: (1 point)	Tier 2: (+1 points)
Mixed Waste MRF (processing mixed MSW or commercial waste to remove dry organic and inorganic recyclables from the waste stream)	Recover greater than 25 percent of the total waste stream (MSW)	Recover greater than 40 percent of the total waste stream (MSW)
Single stream recycling (processing source-separated materials collected in one bin)	Recover at least 50 percent of the total paper, metal, glass, and plastic (#1-7 resins) of MSW generation. ⁴³	Recover at least 60 percent of the total paper, metal, glass, and plastic of MSW generation
Dual stream recycling (processing source-separated materials collected in two or more containers)	Recover at least 75 percent of the fiber stream and 50 percent of the non-fiber stream from the of the MSW stream ⁴⁴	Recover at least 85 percent of the fiber stream and 75 percent of the non-fiber stream from the MSW stream
C&D Recycling Mixed ⁴⁵ (Mixed C&D processing)	Recover 60 percent or more of the C&D stream	Recover 75 percent or more of the C&D stream
C&D Recycling Source Separated (processing source-separated materials)	Recover 80 percent or more of the C&D stream	Recover 95 percent or more of the C&D stream

Potential Strategies:

- The Local Government operated facility has and uses the following processing/sorting technology:
 - Inspection and potential presort occurs on the Tip Floor.
 - Shredding and sizing of materials.
 - Positive pick belt sort - A conveyor belt is used to present material to laborers in an effort to recover recyclable materials. Conveyor belts should move at a rate that optimizes sorting effectiveness and worker safety.

⁴² Uptime calculations do not include stoppages due to force majeure, government-declared disasters or other events beyond the facility operator's control.

⁴³ Note: this diversion rate excludes wet organics and mixed dry organics, such as textiles, carpet, rubber, etc.

⁴⁴ Note: this diversion rate excludes wet organics and mixed dry organics, such as textiles, carpet, rubber, etc.

⁴⁵ C&D Diversion Facilities must be CORR certified. (<https://www.recyclingcertification.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/CORR-Protocol-CRR-1.9.pdf>)

- Negative pick belt sort - A conveyor is used to present material and laborers remove contaminants, such as organics, from the belt prior to recycling. Conveyor belts should move at a rate that optimizes sorting effectiveness and worker safety.
 - Mechanical Screening.
 - Optical sorting.
 - Magnetic (ferrous metal)
 - Eddy Current (non-ferrous metal)
 - Air classification
 - Robotic
 - Quality Assurance/Quality Control
- The Local Government operated facility has and uses a daily maintenance program to maintain the effectiveness of the sorting process.
 - The Local Government operated facility has and uses best practices for the bale storage area.
 - Using the most recent (must be less than 7 years old) local or state-level waste characterization data, compile the estimated or measured quantities of Paper & OCC, Plastic (#1-7), Ferrous and Non-Ferrous Metals, and Glass materials generated. Compare the tons generated (should take into account the resident and visitor calculation used for the Waste Generation Minimum Performance Credit) with the tons recovered to derive the diversion rate.

PCR Credit 2: *Wet Organic Material Recovery Optimization* (1-2 points)

Intent:

To encourage wider acceptance of wet organic materials and to promote the production of marketable energy and soil amendment commodities.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate diversion of wet organic materials (food waste & yard/green waste) from the municipal waste stream.

Tier 1: (1 Point) Demonstrate recovery of at least 30% of the wet organics collected by the Local Government

Tier 2: (+1 point). Demonstrate recovery of at least 40% of wet organics collected by the Local Government

Potential Strategies:

- Institute 'Green Bag' programs for organic waste
- Support community-based recycling and wet organic collection points such as neighborhood composting facilities and Farmers markets

PCR Credit 3: Minimize Bale/Output Contamination Rate (1-2 points)

Intent:

To minimize post-sorting contamination or residue rates for the successful recirculation of recovered materials.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate that material recovery facilities (MRFs) operated by the Local Government achieve the following post-sorting contamination/residue (bale quality) rates including following relevant quality and grading guidelines and material content prohibitions of the current ReMA - Specifications (<https://www.isrispecs.org/>):

Mixed Waste MRFs

	Paper/ Paperboard <10 percent Moisture	Metal	"MRF Glass"	Plastic Bale Contamination
Tier 1: (1 point)	Outthrows + Prohibited 150 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	150 percent of maximum allowed for grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	Non-glass residue & Fines < 15 percent OR Less than 31% of shipments rejected/year	PET & HDPE bottles: 15 percent Other Plastics: <150 percent of recommended maximum contamination for grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/ year
Tier 2: (+1 point)	120 percent of Grade A maximum OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	120 percent of Grade A maximum OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	Non-glass residue & Fines <10percent OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	PET & HDPE bottles: 10 percent Other Plastics: <120 percent of recommended maximum Grade A contamination OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year

Single Stream MRFs

	Paper/ Paperboard <10 percent Moisture	Metal	"MRF Glass"	Plastic Bale Contamination
Tier 1 (1 point)	Outthrows + Prohibited: 120 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	120 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	Non-glass residue & Fines < 10 percent OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	PET & HDPE bottles: 10 percent Other Plastics: <120 percent of recommended maximum contamination for Grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year
Tier 2: (+1 point)	<100 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	<100 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	Non-glass residue & Fines <7 percent OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	PET & HDPE bottles: 6 percent Other Plastics: <100 percent of recommended maximum Grade A contamination OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year

Dual Stream MRFs

	Paper/ Paperboard <10 percent Moisture	Metal	"MRF Glass"	Plastic Bale Contamination
Tier 1: (1 point)	Outthrows + Prohibited: 90 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	90 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	Non-glass residue & Fines < 8 percent OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year	PET & HDPE bottles: 6 percent Other Plastics: <90 percent of recommended maximum contamination for Grade A OR Less than 1% of shipments rejected/year
Tier 2: (+1 point)	50 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	50 percent of maximum allowed for Grade A OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	Non-glass residue & Fines <4 percent OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year	PET & HDPE bottles: 3 percent Other Plastics: <50 percent of recommended maximum Grade A contamination OR Less than 1/2% of shipments rejected/year

Potential Strategies:

- Utilize contamination/residue rate calculation methodology in the SWEEP Certification Manual.
- Material grading of inbound material
- Inbound volume metric collection (for calculation)
- Sorting on tipping floor
- Metering drums and conveyor speeds
- Film removal (vacuum)
- Manual sorting (pick line)
- Density sorting technology (ballistic separators, conventional disc screening, etc.)
- 2-D vs. 3-D sort
- Eddy Current (Aluminum)
- Magnets (Ferrous and other metals)
- Optical sorting (glass by colors, plastics by types, etc.)
- Sorted stream metrics collection
- Residual metrics collection

PCR Credit 4: *Producing High Quality Products from Recovered Organic Materials (1-2 points)*

Intent:

Promote high quality organic end products from organic processing infrastructure.

Local Government Requirements

Process	Requirement
Required	
Anaerobic Digestion/ Fermentation	Test and manage digestate according to the American Biogas Council's Digestate Certification Program
Tier 1 (1 Point)	
Composting	Produce STA Certified Compost-or equivalent ⁴⁶ for 80 percent of compost produced. The compost must contain less than 0.5% by dry weight of physical contaminants greater than 4 millimeters in size, such as glass, metal, and plastic.
Mulching	Conform with the Uniform Voluntary Product Guidelines for Horticultural Mulches, Growing Media & Landscape Soils from the Mulch and Soil Council for 80% of the mulch produced. Mulch must contain less than 0.5% by dry weight of physical contaminants greater than 4 millimeters in size, such as glass, metal, and plastic.
Anaerobic Digestion/ Fermentation	Produce biogas with a minimum average 65 percent CH ₄ content or meet state set average of CH ₄ content (Whichever is higher).
Biochar	Biochar produced for soil application must conform with International Biochar initiative requirements for contaminant testing and not be produced from prohibited inputs. Prohibited biochar inputs include: ● Treated or painted wood, ● Unsorted municipal solid waste, ● Industrial residues containing synthetic chemicals, ● Hazardous materials, ● Sewage sludge with heavy metal and PFAS levels exceeding legal limits, ● Contaminated biomass. Biochar produced for non-soil applications must conform with the World Biochar Certificate (WBC) – Non-Soil Applications at the WBC-Material level. ⁴⁷
Tier 2 (+1 Point)	
Composting	Produce STA Certified Compost-or equivalent ⁴⁸ for 95 percent of compost produced. Facility is operated by a Certified Compost Professional™ from the USCC or equivalent. The compost must contain less than 0.5% by dry weight of physical contaminants greater than 4 millimeters in size, such as glass, metal, and plastic.
Mulching	Conform with the Uniform Voluntary Product Guidelines for Horticultural Mulches, Growing Media & Landscape Soils from the Mulch and Soil Council for 95% of the mulch produced.
Anaerobic Digestion/ Fermentation	Produce biogas with a minimum average 75 percent CH ₄ content or exceed state set average of CH ₄ content by 20% (Whichever is higher). Process biogas output to extract non-combustible and contaminant gases. Regularly test compost for PFAS and microplastic content in digestate using modified EPA Method 533, 537.1 or comparable method approved by the state in which the Applicant is located
Biochar	Biochar produced for soil application must conform with International Biochar initiative requirements for contaminant testing and not be produced from prohibited inputs. Prohibited biochar inputs include: ● Treated or painted wood, ●

⁴⁶ Demonstration of equivalence is the responsibility of the applicant.

⁴⁷ WBC (2023): World Biochar Certificate – Guidelines for a Sustainable Production of Biochar and its Certification.' Carbon Standards International, Frick, Switzerland, (<http://www.european-biochar.org>), version 1.1 from 20th December 2024

⁴⁸ Demonstration of equivalence is the responsibility of the applicant.

Process	Requirement
	Unsorted municipal solid waste, ● Industrial residues containing synthetic chemicals, ● Hazardous materials, ● Sewage sludge with heavy metal and PFAS levels exceeding legal limits, ● Contaminated biomass. Biochar produced for non-soil applications must conform with the World Biochar Certificate (WBC) – Non-Soil Applications at the WBC-Premium level. ⁴⁹

Potential Strategies:

- Pre- and post-composting screening for organic inputs and compost and anaerobic digestion outputs
- Undergo regular testing (heavy metals, other contaminants, and agronomic parameters) per US Composting Council guidelines.
- Provide or publish information to the public for proper use of compost or digestate products generated by their facilities.
- Educate local community on proper organic material disposal for composting and digestion processes.

⁴⁹ WBC (2023): World Biochar Certificate – Guidelines for a Sustainable Production of Biochar and its Certification.' Carbon Standards International, Frick, Switzerland, (<http://www.european-biochar.org>), version 1.1 from 20th December 2024

PCR Credit 5: *Wet Organics Processing Infrastructure* (1-2 points)

Intent:

To develop infrastructure to provide optimized conversion of wet organic (food and yard/green) waste and, if indicated, other organic material to produce energy, soil amendments, and other useful products.

Local Government Requirements

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Demonstrate operating **capacity** (centralized and/or distributed; in-house or contracted capacity) to convert at least 10 percent of the calculated **food waste** generated into useful products, such as biogas, biochar, and compost, or fertilizers that meet the requirements of PCR Credit 4.

AND

- Demonstrate conversion into useful products of 5 percent of calculated **food waste** generation in the Local Government Jurisdiction.

OR

- Demonstrate operating capacity (centralized and/or distributed; in-house or contracted capacity) to convert at least 25 percent of the calculated **yard waste** generated into useful products, such as compost, mulch, or biochar.⁵⁰

AND

- Demonstrate conversion into useful products of 20 percent of calculated **yard waste** generation in the Company service area.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

- Demonstrate operating capacity (centralized and/or distributed; in-house or contracted capacity) to convert at least 25 percent of the calculated **food waste** generated into useful products such as biogas, biochar, and compost or fertilizers that meet the requirements of PCR Credit 4.

AND

- Demonstrate conversion into useful products of 15 percent of calculated **food waste** generation in the Company service area.

OR

- Demonstrate operating capacity (centralized and/or distributed; in-house or contracted capacity) to convert at least 50 percent of the calculated **yard waste** generated into useful products, such as compost, mulch, or biochar.⁵¹

AND

- Demonstrate conversion into useful products of 40 percent of calculated **yard waste** generation in the Company service area.

⁵⁰ The use of yard waste as ADC is not considered “useful” for the purpose of this credit.

⁵¹ The use of yard waste as ADC is not considered “useful” for the purpose of this credit.

Potential Strategies:

- Utilize the tools and procedures in the SWEEP Certification Toolkit for demonstrating achievement of credit requirements
- List of different technologies: AD (dry/wet); composting; fermentation; autoclaving; pyrolysis
- List of different products: energy; animal feed; soil amendments; fertilizers, etc.
- Create capacity to process the required volume of food waste using anaerobic digestion or other organic processing equipment.
- Include gas scrubbing and other processing equipment, such as compressors for use as transportation fuel or direct connection with combined heat and power generators or connection with existing gas transmission networks.
- Utilization of wastewater treatment plants and/or farm-based infrastructure for anaerobic digestion.
- Conduct local study for food waste averages during normal operating periods
- Improve food waste collection and processing infrastructure in food processors, food retailers, kitchens and dining facilities located in the Company's service area to increase organic waste diversion
- Innovation credits given for programs that divert both food and yard waste at the given levels

PCR Credit 6: *Regional/Local Recycling Supply Chain* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Maximize local environmental and economic benefits and minimize environmental footprint through local-regional and transparent supply chains.

Local Government Requirements

Tier 1: (1 point)

Using the SWEEP Supply Chain Calculator, demonstrate that 80 percent or more of outputs from material recovery and organics processing facilities are sold and/or utilized within 500 miles or demonstrate that carbon emissions per ton-mile of material shipped is less than 180 lb. CO₂/ton.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Using the SWEEP Supply Chain Calculator, demonstrate that 50 percent or more of outputs from material recovery and organics processing facilities are sold and/or utilized within 100 miles or demonstrate that carbon emissions per ton-mile of material shipped is less than 80 lb. CO₂/ton.

Potential Strategies:

- Utilize the tools in the SWEEP Certification Toolkit to demonstrate the average transportation CO₂ for recovered materials.
- Identify local or more nearby recycled materials processors.
- Work with your broker to identify local demand for processed materials,
- Develop marketing programs that emphasize local processing and use.
- Utilize efficient, low carbon intensity transportation modes.

PCR Environmental Performance KPI

PCR Credit 7: *Energy Efficient and Low Emissions Organics Processing Operations (1-2 points)*

Intent:

Reduce the environmental footprint of organic processing operations.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate that Organic Processing operations meet the following targets:

Tier 1: (1 Point)

- Demonstrate compliance with permit
- Measure emissions
- Submit the measurements to SWEEP⁵²
- Without compromising health and safety, limit onsite Idle Time for collection vehicles and onsite mobile equipment for facilities receiving:⁵³
 - Less than 100 tons per day: an average of 10 minutes
 - 100-250 tons per day: an average of 15 minutes
 - Over 250 tons per day: an average of 20 minutes
- Institute best practices control techniques for dust, litter and vectors
- For 50 percent of onsite Processing Equipment:
 - Utilize electric equipment, and/or
 - Use ultra-low-sulfur diesel fuel, and/or
 - Install catalytic and particulate pollution control devices, and/or
 - Utilize ILEV or ULEV diesel engines⁵⁴

Tier 2: (+1 Point)

- Meet Tier 1 requirements

⁵² SWEEP will not share any facility or organization-specific data with the public.

⁵³ See Certification Manual for idling guidelines in cold weather conditions.

⁵⁴ ULEV engines count 2X ILEV engines.

AND

- Produced or utilized biogas/syngas must demonstrate the following characteristics

Pollutant	Mesophilic AD	Thermophilic AD	Dry AD	Fermentation	Pyrolysis	Composting
NOx	Flare emissions: <0.06 lbs/MMBtu	Flare emissions: <0.06 lbs/MMBtu	Flare emissions: <0.06 lbs/MMBtu	Flare emissions: <0.06 lbs/MMBtu	Flare emissions: <0.06 lbs/MMBtu	
Ammonia (NH ₃)	<20 ppmv	<100 ppmv	<200 ppmv	<20 ppmv		0.46 lb. ammonia/ ton of throughput
H ₂ S	<500 ppm	<500 ppm	<500 ppm	<500 ppm	<500 ppm	<500 ppm
VOCs						<4.25 lb per ton of throughput
CH ₄ (methane emissions)	<1% fugitive methane from total produced	<1% fugitive methane from total produced	<1% fugitive methane from total produced	<1% fugitive methane from total produced	<1% fugitive methane from total produced	<1% fugitive methane from total produced
Particulates?	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	<10 mg/Nm ³ total PM	<PM ₁₀ : 50 µg/m ³

Potential Strategies

- Take measures to improve energy efficiency per ton of output (machines and buildings)
- Procure energy efficient or alternative fueled mobile equipment (front-end loaders; forklifts; yard hustlers and other onsite hauling) vehicle emissions.
- Procure low emission processing equipment with best available emissions control (e.g., windrow turning equipment + other).
- Minimize emissions from collection vehicle queuing through idling policies and minimizing facility turnaround time.
- Implement interior and site-level dust & litter suppression.
- Employ odor control technology as warranted.
- Methane & other emissions control for composting and anaerobic digesters

Report or publish emissions data for Innovation credit

PCR Credit 8: *Energy Efficient and Low Emissions Materials Recovery Operations* (1 point)

Intent:

Reduce the environmental footprint of recycling processing operations.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate that Material Processing operations meet the following targets:

- Meet the renewable energy or carbon offset requirements of WGP Credit 6: Sustainable Capital and Utility Procurement
- Facility(ies) is/are Energy Star Certified or implement(s) energy conservation best practices that result in a 25 percent savings in energy consumption (over a LEED compliant baseline).
- Facility(ies) address(es) ambient and indoor air quality through proper air pollutant control practices.
- Facility(ies) minimize(s) water use and/or utilize(s) reclaimed water

Potential Strategies:

- Purchase high-quality renewable energy or carbon credits from verified Registries
- Utilize variable speed drives on motors in the MRF, LED lighting and skylights
- Provide visual access to daylight for workers
- Provide good filtration for enclosed areas that are regularly occupied
- Provide low/no-flush equipment in the lavatories

PCR Credit 9: *Clean and Efficient Material Recovery and Organics Processing Facilities* (1 point)

Intent:

Minimizing the environmental footprint of material recovery and organics processing facilities.

Local Government Requirements

Tier 1: (1 point)

MRF Requirement	AD Facility Requirement
Facility(ies) address(es) ambient and indoor air quality through low-emission construction materials	Facility(ies) address(es) ambient and indoor air quality through low-emission construction materials
40 percent of at least one facility (by value, excluding equipment) is constructed from recycled or repurposed materials. This excludes processing equipment.	40 percent of at least one facility (by value, excluding equipment) is constructed from recycled or repurposed materials. This excludes processing equipment.
Facility(ies) provide(s) employees with daylight/natural light and access to views/nature.	Facility(ies) provide(s) employees with daylight/natural light and access to views/nature.
Facility(ies) is/are Energy Star Certified or implement(s) energy conservation best practices that result in a 25 percent savings in energy consumption (over a LEED compliant baseline).	Facility(ies) is/are Energy Star Certified or implement(s) energy conservation best practices that result in a 25 percent savings in energy consumption (over a LEED compliant baseline).

Potential Strategies:

- Utilize solar energy.
- The facility uses electric, natural gas or alternative fueled vehicles.
- The facility implements energy-reduction processes (motion-activated lighting, efficient equipment, etc.) and practices.
- Utilize LEED compliant baseline and energy saving calculation procedure in the SWEEP Certification Manual.
- Implement deconstruction practices including reuse of materials when constructing new reuse facilities.

Innovation points are given for Facility(ies) is/are certified under a recognized standard such as LEED, GNfZ, Envision Infrastructure Rating System, etc.

PCR Credit 10: Renewable or Alternative Fueled On-site Mobile Equipment for Recovery and Organics Processing Facilities (1 point)

Intent:

Reduce atmospheric emissions associated with recovery of solid waste and promote renewable and low-carbon intensity alternatives to non-renewable transportation fuels.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate, on a percentage basis, the use of renewable or low-emission fuels⁵⁵ in the on-site vehicles/mobile equipment utilized in material recovery facilities, including MRFs, compost facilities, anaerobic digestion facilities, etc.

The percentage of renewable or alternative fuel use can be determined on the basis of either the fraction of the vehicles used on-site, the fraction of total fuel consumption, or the fraction of annual hours used.

Percentage of Renewable Fueled on-site mobile equipment:

- 30 percent or more use of
 - vehicles/mobile equipment that utilize Renewable Fuels
 - hours of total operation for equipment that utilizes Renewable Fuels
 - total fuel consumption that utilizes Renewable Fuels.

OR

- 60 percent or more use of Low Carbon or Alternative Renewable fuels
 - vehicles/mobile equipment that utilize Low Carbon or Alternative fuels
 - hours of total operation for equipment that utilizes Low Carbon or Alternative Fuels
 - total fuel consumption that utilizes Low Carbon or Alternative Fuels.

Potential Strategies

- Operate electric equipment.
- Operate diesel hybrids.
- Utilize methane from digesters or landfills.
- Utilize liquid fuels derived from solid waste.

⁵⁵ Please see the Certification Manual for full definitions. Renewable fuels are defined by the US EPA as “Biomass-based diesel [that] meet[s] a 50% lifecycle GHG reduction; Cellulosic biofuel [that is] produced from cellulose, hemicellulose, or lignin and...meet[s] a 60% lifecycle GHG reduction; Advanced biofuels [are] produced from qualifying renewable biomass (except corn starch) and...meet a 50% GHG reduction.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/overview-renewable-fuel-standard> “Low carbon” fuels include landfill methane and corn-based ethanol. “Alternative fuels include gaseous fuels such as hydrogen, natural gas, and propane; alcohols such as ethanol, methanol, and butanol; vegetable and waste-derived oils; and electricity. These fuels may be used in a dedicated system that burns a single fuel, or in a mixed system with other fuels including traditional gasoline or diesel, such as in hybrid-electric or flexible fuel vehicles.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/alternative-fuels> Liquid fuels derived from plastics that could otherwise be recovered for recycling do not count toward this credit.

PCR Credit 11: *Materials Recovery and Organics Processing Facility Stormwater Management* (1 point)

Intent:

To effectively manage stormwater at materials recovery and organics processing facilities to minimize the production of contaminated run-off.

Local Government Requirements

Develop a comprehensive stormwater management plan that

- Minimizes stormwater contact with materials and organics being processed
- Provides for regular inspection of stormwater control measures
- Meets the performance objectives of the stormwater management system
- Keeping and maintaining comprehensive operations, maintenance, and discharging records

AND

Demonstrate that the recovery facility has an effective stormwater management system in place to prevent water pooling and reduce excessive infiltration, including:

- Material Recovery and Organic Processing Facility Requirements:
 - Leachate and stormwater management systems must be separate
 - Minimize stormwater contact with onsite facilities or processing areas
 - Stormwater runoff must not exit the site untreated
 - Facility complies with the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Floodplain requirements. (<https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/intergovernmental/federal-flood-risk-management-standard>)

Potential Strategies:

- Integrate bioswales, retention ponds, compost socks and other mechanisms to reduce, store and process stormwater runoff
- Do not connect any leachate management equipment with the storm drain or other stormwater conveyance system

PCR Economic Performance KPI

PCR Credit 12: *Material Recovery Cost Transparency* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Provide transparency to the cost of recovering recycled and composted or digested materials.

Local Government Requirements**Tier 1:** (1 point)

- Calculate the average cost per ton OR per Household OR per capita of processing and transferring (does NOT include collection costs) of materials recovered from residential and nonresidential customers by/through the Local Government program.
 - All materials collected through single or dual-stream recycling program, e.g.; Paper, Metal, Glass, Plastic and other materials
 - Yard/Green Waste
 - Food Waste
 - Bulky Waste
 - Cost of managing contamination/residuals.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

- Demonstrate how costs are covered/funded.
- Make top-level (\$/ton) cost data available through the Local Government website.

Potential Strategies:

- Include program overhead and administrative costs in per ton/Household/capita calculations. These figures do not need to be reported separately, however.
- Publicize results on the Local Government's website.
- Protect or mask proprietary information.

PCR Working Conditions and Community Impact KPI

PCR Credit 13: *Good Neighbor Practices* (1-3 points)

Intent:

To minimize impacts on community quality of life from material recovery and organics processing facility operations.

Local Government Requirements:

Material Recovery and/or Organic Processing Facility/(ies) owned, operated, or controlled by the Local Government implement(s) an operational plan that addresses all aspects of operations and that is intended to maintain or improve the quality of life for the surrounding residents and/or businesses.

And

- Has a system in place to receive and address comments from the community.
- Litter control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite and primary access roads as defined below.
- Dust control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite and within 100 yards of the facility boundary.
- Install filtration and odor control on the exhaust ventilation system to the outdoors that captures >80 percent of PM 2.5 or smaller particles for any enclosed facilities.
- For outdoor facilities, minimize and mitigate odors by implementing the material turning and odor reduction recommendations in the Composting Handbook from the Composting Council
- Implement measures that do not allow stormwater runoff to exit the site untreated.
- New Material Recovery and/or Organic Processing Facilities are not built within designated Buffer Zones for “sensitive receptors”⁵⁶, or of residences, schools, parks, prisons, playgrounds, nursing homes, day care centers, or other places people live or congregate.
 - The Buffer Zone requirement does not apply to Existing Facilities.⁵⁷

Population Density	Rural: <100 people/mi ²	Suburban: 101 – 1,000 people/mi ²	Urban: >1,000 people/mi ²	Sensitive Receptors
Litter Control Measures (inspected and recovered within 100 yards of the facility boundary)	1 mile along primary access roads	1/2 mile along primary access roads	1/4 mile along primary access roads	NA
AND				
New Project Buffer Zone	900 Feet	500 Feet	250 Feet	900 Feet

⁵⁶ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines a sensitive receptor as any ecological entity that is particularly vulnerable to environmental stressors. This includes plants, animals (including endangered and threatened species), habitats, and ecosystems. Sensitive receptors are often considered in environmental assessments to ensure that protective measures are in place to mitigate potential harm.

⁵⁷ Existing Facilities are defined as projects that are operational prior to the Local Government or Company applying for SWEEP Certification.

AND**Tier 1: (1 point)**

- Achieve 1 Credit from PCR credits: **PCR credit 7, PCR credit 8, or PCR credit 10.**

AND

- No unresolved violations within the last year for:
 - Noise
 - Traffic
 - Pest/Vermin
 - Odor
 - Litter
 - NPDES permit requirements

Tier 2: (+1 point)

- Achieve 2 Credits from PCR credits: **PCR credit 7, PCR credit 8, or PCR credit 10.**

AND

- No unresolved violations within the last two years
 - Noise
 - Traffic
 - Pest/Vermin
 - Odor
 - Litter
 - NPDES permit requirements

Tier 3: (+1 point)

- Achieve **PCR credit 7, PCR credit 8, AND PCR credit 10.**

AND

- No unresolved violations within the last three years:
 - Noise
 - Traffic
 - Pest/Vermin
 - Odor
 - Litter
 - NPDES permit requirements

Potential Strategies:

- Follow stormwater management guidelines in PCD Credit: ***Effective Utilization of Recovered Methane***
- Develop a traffic management plan in consultation with the local community
- Limit idling of waiting vehicles
- Implement Integrated Pest Management techniques
- Rapidly process materials to minimize putrefaction
- Install windscreens or other perimeter techniques to reduce or prevent litter and fugitive dust from escaping the site.

PCR Credit 14: *Post-Collection Recovery Facility Safety Protocols and Training* (1-2 points)

Intent:

To reduce accidents and injuries and ensure worker safety and health outcomes during daily material recovery and organics processing facility operations through attention to hazards and making worker and resident protection a part of Company culture.

Local Government Requirements

Implement a Safety Incentive Program that is not directly connected with accident-free periods. The program must include 'whistleblower' protection where employees shall not be retaliated against for identifying and reporting hazards or reporting accidents.

The Employer and the employees shall comply with all state and federal health and safety laws and regulations.

Establish an employee-led Safety Committee consistent with OSHA Recommended practices⁵⁸:

- Establish regular meetings to be conducted during paid hours
- Ensure that Safety committee members receive the necessary safety training to enable them to effectively perform their required functions as committee members.
- Ensure that employees have the opportunity to communicate opinions on the effectiveness of worker or safety regulations and suggestions for improvement.
- The Safety Committee should automatically receive all copies of the employer's OSHA 300 illness and Injury logs as well as the facilities' personnel-hours
- Ensure that safety committee members have proper, secured storage for OSHA 300 logs as these logs can often contain sensitive employee data.
- No worker shall be punished or discriminated against in any way for refusing work that he or she believes in good faith to be immediately dangerous or for bringing health and safety violations to the attention of any person.

AND

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Verify that weekly safety and equipment usage demonstrations and training are being conducted for all employees
- Operates in a documented safety-training system that complies with ANSI Z245 safety guidelines as applicable⁵⁹
- Monitor, record, and report worker illnesses, fatalities and injuries
- Conduct 'Root Cause' analysis of any injuries or fatalities that occur in the system
- Provide "Accessible" Training that is available in English and the predominant/fluent language of the workers being trained:

⁵⁸ https://www.osha.gov/shpguidelines/docs/OSHA_SHP_Recommended_Practices.pdf

⁵⁹ <https://swana.org/Safety/ANSIStandardsforWasteandRecycling.aspx>

- Mandatory weekly for new hires for at least the first quarter
- Ongoing monthly training for existing employees
- Features graphic-based or video training
- American National Standard (ANSI Z245) symbols are used throughout

Tier 2: (+1 points)

- All the requirements of Tier 1,
- Workers receive additional worker training program(s) recognized by their collective bargaining representative.

OR

- Provide “Advanced operational training” covering fixed and onsite mobile equipment
 - Training should include both “classroom” and “field” components
 - For training on existing equipment or improved existing equipment, Trainers should have a minimum of 2 years of full-time operating experience on the equipment that is the subject of the training and demonstrated training experience of 100 hours, or equivalent certification.
 - For newly introduced equipment (e.g., robotics), Trainers should have a minimum of 6 months of field or laboratory operating experience on the equipment that is the subject of the training and demonstrated training experience of 100 hours, or equivalent certification.

Potential Strategies:

Accomplish increased operational regulation, safety resources, and safety awareness campaigns by implementing the following recommendations:

- Complete all employee safety and health training programs and track participation and if employees passed tests.
- Incorporate safety training into all onboarding training.
- Complete and record Risk Assessments for all work tasks; remediate identified hazards.
- Implement a system to report near-misses and discuss for practical lessons.
- Implement and follow a Safe Driving Policy & training for facility mobile equipment (option: using SWANA’s template)
- Conduct regular safety training at least weekly for all employees, track attendance.
- Create and maintain standard operating procedures based on industry best practices.
- Regularly hold focus group meetings between employees and employers. Ensure both parties have the opportunity to communicate opinions on the effectiveness of worker safety regulation, and suggestions for improvement.
- Worker participation means that workers are involved in establishing, operating, evaluating, and improving the safety and health program. All workers at a worksite should participate, including those employed by contractors, subcontractors, and temporary staffing agencies.
- Conduct ‘Experience Modification Rating’ evaluation of key safety programs

PCR Credit 15: OSHA-Compliant Material Recovery & Organics Processing Facilities (1-3 points)**Intent:**

Promote safe and efficient operation of material recovery and organics processing facilities.

Local Government Requirements

Prevent or identify and correct OSHA-related operational violations and/or recommendations in all OSHA covered facilities under the operational or ownership control of the Local Government.

Tier 1: (1 point)

Demonstrate a current OSHA-compliant safety plan that has been updated within the past 2 years.

Conduct an OSHA (or equivalent)-Level audit by a qualified auditor following the official forms, which must be completely filled out.

Qualified auditors include:

- Federal or State OSHA inspector
- Insurance inspector (must have current CSP or CIH certification)
- Union CIH or equivalent safety official

AND

Full implementation of all OSHA (or equivalent) recommendations based on the audit.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Fulfill Tier 1 requirements

AND

- implement an annual safety audit program utilizing a qualified safety inspector.
- Full implementation of all OSHA (or equivalent) recommendations based on the audit.

OR**ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE PATHWAY:**

(Tier 2) Demonstrate participation in the OSHA VPP program at the Merit level.

Tier 3: (+1 point):

- Fulfill Tier 2 requirements and implement a quarterly safety audit program utilizing a qualified safety inspector

AND

- Full implementation of all OSHA (or equivalent) recommendations based on the audit.

OR**ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE PATHWAY:**

(Tier 3) Demonstrate participation in the OSHA VPP program at the Star level.

Potential Strategies:

- List all OSHA violations and state of resolution for the last 5 years.

PCR Credit 16: *Commitment to Living Wage* (1 point)

Intent:

Increase career commitment and employee retention through good remuneration and benefits.

Local Government Requirements

To fulfill this credit, applicants must:

- Ensure all workers are paid not less than a Living Wage, including hourly wage, benefits, and paid overtime
 - To determine the Living Wage for your region, utilize [MIT's Living Wage Calculator](#) or [EPI's Family Budget Calculator](#). If you are using a living wage calculator, the calculated Living Wage should not exceed the Median Household Income⁶⁰.

OR

- An Alternative Living Wage set at 150% of the Minimum Wage.⁶¹

AND

Provide workers with a health insurance plan that has the characteristics of an Affordable Care Act qualified plan for pre-existing conditions, young adult coverage, cancellation and appeals, benefit limits, and preventative care. The health insurance plan should also have, at a minimum, an actuarial value of 90% that covers all employees and family members, with no employee/family payroll premium deductions or waiting periods regardless.

⁶⁰ SWEEP uses a 2024 Median Household Income of \$77,719 defined by the Census of the United States. <https://www.census.gov/search-results.html?q=median+income&page=1&stateGeo=none&searchtype=web&cssp=SERP&charset=UTF-8>

⁶¹ As will be further described in the Certification Manual, the Living Wage is calculated as follows--Either use the referenced living wage calculators or use the Alternative Living Wage. The Alternative Living Wage is defined as 150% of the Minimum Wage. The Minimum Wage is defined as the average of 1) the existing Federal Minimum Wage of \$7.25/hr. in 2009 dollars, indexed to current dollars using the CPI inflation calculator, or \$11.02 (https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm) and 2) Fifteen dollars (\$15/hr.). For the Pilot Program, the Minimum Wage for 2024 is calculated as \$13.00/hr. The Alternative Living Wage for SWEEP is calculated to be \$19.50/hr.

5. Post Collection Disposal (PCD) (15 Points Possible)

Post-collection Disposal refers to practices aimed at the safe and effective disposal of waste that has no higher or more beneficial use.

The PCD requirements of SWEEP take into account four key performance indicators (KPI) related to Post Collection Recovery:

- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Environmental Performance
- Economic Performance
- Working Conditions/Community Impacts

PCD Environmental Performance KPI

PCD Credit 1: *Renewable or Alternative Fueled On-Site Mobile Equipment for Disposal Facilities* (1 point)

Intent:

Reduce atmospheric emissions associated with disposal of solid waste and promote renewable and low-carbon intensity alternatives to non-renewable transportation fuels.

Local Government Requirements

Demonstrate, on a percentage basis, the use of renewable or low-emission fuels in the vehicles/mobile equipment used on-site. The percentage of renewable or alternative fuel use can be determined on the basis of either the fraction of the vehicle/mobile equipment fleet or the fraction of annual miles traveled, or total fuel consumed.

Percentage of Alternative Fueled⁶² on-site mobile equipment:

- 30 percent or more use of
 - vehicles/mobile equipment that utilize Renewable Fuels
 - hours of total operation for equipment that utilizes Renewable Fuels
 - total fuel consumption that utilizes Renewable Fuels.

OR

- 60 percent or more use of
 - vehicles/mobile equipment that utilize Renewable Fuels
 - hours of total operation for equipment that utilizes Renewable Fuels
 - total fuel consumption that utilizes Renewable Fuels.

Potential Strategies

- Utilize Electric equipment
- Utilize landfill methane
- Utilize natural gas
- Utilize Digester methane
- Diesel Hybrids
- Liquid fuels derived from solid waste

⁶² Please see the Certification Manual for full definitions. Renewable fuels are defined by the US EPA as “Biomass-based diesel [that] meet[s] a 50% lifecycle GHG reduction; Cellulosic biofuel [that is] produced from cellulose, hemicellulose, or lignin and...meet[s] a 60% lifecycle GHG reduction; Advanced biofuels [are] produced from qualifying renewable biomass (except corn starch) and...meet a 50% GHG reduction.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/overview-renewable-fuel-standard> “Low carbon” fuels include landfill methane and corn-based ethanol. “Alternative fuels include gaseous fuels such as hydrogen, natural gas, and propane; alcohols such as ethanol, methanol, and butanol; vegetable and waste-derived oils; and electricity. These fuels may be used in a dedicated system that burns a single fuel, or in a mixed system with other fuels including traditional gasoline or diesel, such as in hybrid-electric or flexible fuel vehicles.” <https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/alternative-fuels> Liquid fuels derived from plastics that could otherwise be recovered for recycling do not count toward this credit.

PCD Credit 2: *Disposal Facility Stormwater Management* (1 point)

Intent:

To effectively manage stormwater at waste disposal facilities (including landfills and waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities) to minimize run-off exposure to waste and production of leachate.

Local Government Requirements

Develop a comprehensive stormwater management plan that

- Minimizes stormwater penetration of open and closed cells (landfills only)
- Provides for regular inspection of stormwater control measures
- Meets the performance objectives of the stormwater management system
- Keeping and maintaining comprehensive operations, maintenance, and discharging records

Demonstrate that the disposal facility has an effective stormwater management system in place to prevent water pooling and reduce excessive infiltration, including:

- Landfill Requirements:
 - Leachate and stormwater management systems must be separate
 - Landfill is designed and managed to minimize seepage
 - Stormwater run-on must not come within 100 yards of the base of capped or active cells.
 - Stormwater runoff (including run-on from adjacent sites) must not exit the site untreated
 - Facility complies with the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Floodplain requirements. (<https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/intergovernmental/federal-flood-risk-management-standard>)
- Incinerator/WTE Requirements:
 - Stormwater runoff (including run-on from adjacent sites) must not exit the site untreated
 - Facility complies with Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) Floodplain requirements. (<https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management/intergovernmental/federal-flood-risk-management-standard>)

Potential Strategies:

- Design of the daily cell to minimize ponding and run-off
- Maintaining the slopes of the landfill to minimize erosion and increased runoff
- Define existing and intermittent flow channels and the area and characteristics of the contributing watershed;
- Schedule landfilling operations to minimize disturbed areas (i.e., phase-in operations);
- Attempt to limit the handling of topsoil or cover materials to only one operation;

- Construct and stabilize stormwater controls in advance of landfilling;
- Stop flowing water from entering the active fill area with permanent perimeter diversions;
- Establish a complete sequence of controls (i.e., interception, conveyance, transportation, energy dissipation and sediment disposition);
- Use stormwater detention to improve the quality and reduce the intensity of stormwater runoff;
- Plan for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permit by keeping good operations records and monitoring discharges off the site;
- Use a surface water collection/ removal (SWCR) system immediately above the hydraulic barrier in the final closure cap. Geonets, geocomposites and/or granular material can be used for this purpose;
- Inspect and maintain controls after each significant storm
- Integrate run-off/run-on and erosion and sediment control into every phase of the landfill operation.

PCD Credit 3: *Landfill Emissions Minimization (1-2 points)*

Intent:

To effectively manage and minimize emissions from landfills, including air emissions and leachate in order to prevent or reduce air contamination and surface and groundwater contamination.

Local Government Requirements

For landfills under operational or ownership control of the Local Government, implement the policies and programs outlined below

Air Emissions: (1 point)

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Demonstrate that emissions permit requirements are being met.
- Measure and document greenhouse gas, criteria air pollutants and hazardous air pollutants emissions with the best available technology that captures emissions/leakages throughout the entire system.
- Landfills must document methane leaks, including fugitive emissions, and GHG, criteria air pollutants and HAPs emissions as a result of the LFG recovery systems.⁶³
- Implement a control system designed and operated to:
 - Reduce non-methane organic compounds by 98 percent by weight,

OR

- When an enclosed combustion device is used for control, to either
 - reduce NMOC by 98 percent by weight

OR

- reduce the outlet to less than 20 parts per million by volume, dry basis as hexane at 3 percent oxygen.

The reduction efficiency or parts per million by volume shall be established by an initial performance test to be completed no later than 180 days after the initial startup of the approved control system using the test methods specified in RCRA as codified in 40 CFR § 60.754(d).

Water Emissions: (1 point)

- Implement PCD Stormwater Management Credit
- The landfill has no outstanding violations of existing permitted landfill effluent emission limits including:
 - Discharges from wastewater treatment facilities handling the leachate.
 - Groundwater and surface water pollutant concentration limits.
- The landfill has an effective leachate management system, which includes:

⁶³ Documented data must be provided to SWEEP. If documented leaks exceed the national average of leaks for flaring of LFGs, the credit will not be given.

- Operational practices that prevent water from penetrating the landfill cap in the first place
- Methods of measuring leachate volumes, concentration, and composition
- Leachate collection and diversion infrastructure
- Effective methods of processing leachate (on-site or off-site), including PFAS/PFOA
- Regular testing of groundwater and surface water for the presence of leachate compounds, including PFAS/PFOA
- Remediation plan in the case of leakage.

Potential Strategies

- Regularly monitor landfill gas collection, flaring emissions and leachate management systems.
- Creation of methyl alcohol as an industrial feedstock
- Creation of dry ice from CO₂
- Upgrade landfill gas for injection into pipelines

PCD Credit 4: *Effective Utilization of Recovered Landfill Methane* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Minimize greenhouse gas emissions from landfills.

Local Government Requirements

Utilize the methodology outlined in the US Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule (GGRR), 40 CFR Part 98 Subpart HH to calculate landfill gas generated by landfills covered by this rule that are owned or controlled by the Local Government.

Report calculated values for:

- Landfill gas generated
- Methane content
- CO₂e in tons per year (Equation A-1 from GGRR)

Demonstrate that non-methane toxic organic compounds, halogenated compounds, dioxins and furans have been removed from the gas and properly disposed of.

AND

Tier One: (1 point)

- Demonstrate that at least 90 percent of landfill gas collected is utilized in place of conventional fossil fuels.

Tier Two: (+1 point)

- Demonstrate that at least 90 percent of landfill gas collected is converted to a functional use through non-burn landfill gas management methods.

Potential Strategies

Utilize recovered landfill gas for:

- Creation of methyl alcohol as an industrial feedstock
- Creation of dry ice from CO₂
- Process heat
- Electricity generation
- Combined heat and power
- Compressed fuel for mobile equipment and or collection vehicles
- Selling gas to distribution network
- Follow the criteria calculation methodology described in the Certification Manual

PCD Economic Performance KPI

PCD Credit 5: *Material Disposal Cost Transparency* (1-2 points)

Intent:

Provide transparency to the cost of waste materials that are landfilled or treated with burn technology, such as at waste to energy facilities, thermal conversion facilities, or incinerators.

Local Government Requirements**Tier 1: (1 point)**

- Calculate the cost per ton of disposal in the landfill or incineration plant of waste materials collected from residential and commercial customers by/through the Local Government's waste management program
 - Mixed waste/black bin waste
 - Bulky waste

Tier 2: (+1 point)

- Demonstrate how costs are covered/funded.
- Make cost/ton data available through the Local Government website.

Potential Strategies:

- Include transportation from the transfer station to the ultimate disposal site in the cost assessment.
- Include data that demonstrates how much energy is generated by ton of the 's waste in a waste to energy facility.

PCD Working Conditions/Community Impact Performance KPI

PCD Credit 6: *Good Neighbor Practices* (1-2 points)

Intent:

To minimize impacts on community quality of life from waste disposal facility operations.

Local Government Requirements

Waste Disposal Facility(ies)⁶⁴ owned, operated, or controlled by the Local Government has a policy and specified practices to address all aspects of operations that might result in a reduction in the quality of life for the surrounding residents and/or businesses, including:

Has a system in place to receive and address comments from the community.

- Litter control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite and primary access roads as defined below.
- Dust control and mitigation measures are implemented onsite and within 100 yards of the facility boundary.
- Install filtration on exhaust ventilation system to the outdoors that captures >80 percent of PM 2.5 or smaller particles for any enclosed facilities.
- Implement measures that do not allow runoff to exit the site untreated.
- New Waste Disposal Facilities are not built within the designated Buffer Zone of “sensitive receptors”⁶⁵, or residences, schools, parks, prisons, playgrounds, nursing homes, day care centers, or other places people live or congregate. The Buffer Zone requirement does not apply to Existing Facilities.⁶⁶

Population Density	Rural: <100 people/mi2	Suburban: 101 – 1,000 people/mi2	Urban: >1,000 people/mi2
Litter Control Measures (inspected and recovered within 100 yards of the property boundary) AND,	1 mile along primary access roads	1/2 mile along primary access roads	1/4 mile along primary access roads
Dust Control Measures (inspected and recovered within 100 yards of the property boundary) AND,	1 mile along primary access roads	1/2 mile along primary access roads	1/4 mile along primary access roads
New Project Buffer Zone	900 Feet	500 Feet	250 Feet

AND

Tier 1: (1 point)

⁶⁴ “Waste Disposal Facility” includes transfer stations, landfills and thermal conversion facilities.

⁶⁵ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines a sensitive receptor as any ecological entity that is particularly vulnerable to environmental stressors. This includes plants, animals (including endangered and threatened species), habitats, and ecosystems. Sensitive receptors are often considered in environmental assessments to ensure that protective measures are in place to mitigate potential harm.

⁶⁶ Existing Facilities are defined as projects that are operational prior to the Local Government or Company applying for SWEEP Certification.

Demonstrate that the facility has no unresolved or unaddressed complaints regarding the operational elements listed above that are pending before any governing agency or body.

- No unaddressed complaints or violations within the last three years:
 - Noise
 - Traffic
 - Pest/Vermin
 - Odor
- Implement the stormwater management requirements from PCD Credit 2: ***Landfill Stormwater Management***.
- Limit emissions from mobile equipment and other operations according to PCD Credit 3: ***Landfill Emissions Minimization***.

Tier 2: (+1 Point)

Fulfill requirements in Tier One. Then complete the following:

- Fund a study to understand the negative effects of waste management operations on individual communities within 5 miles of your solid waste facility
- Implement the requirements of PCD Credit 1: **Renewable or Alternative Fueled On-Site Mobile Equipment** to reduce the amount of diesel fueled vehicles within your fleet that haul waste to and from incinerators, transfer stations, and recycling facilities

Potential Strategies:

- Conduct regular ‘listening sessions’ with the local community regarding issues that impact the quality of life
- Create a panel to discuss complaints and potential strategies
- Work with education institutions, activist groups, and/or the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to assess health impacts on surrounding communities
- Invest in barges and rail as a means for transport rather than diesel trucks

PCD Credit 7: *Post-Collection Disposal Facility Safety Protocols and Training (1-2 points)*

Intent:

To reduce accidents and injuries and ensure worker safety and health outcomes during daily waste disposal facility⁶⁷ operations through attention to hazards and making worker protection a part of the Local Government's culture.

Local Government Requirements

Implement a Safety Incentive Program that is not directly connected with accident-free periods. The program must include 'whistleblower' protections where employees shall not be retaliated against for identifying and reporting hazards or reporting accidents.

The Employer and the employees shall comply with all state and federal health and safety laws and regulations.

- Establish an employee-led Safety Committee consistent with OSHA Recommended Practices: https://www.osha.gov/shpguidelines/docs/OSHA_SHP_Recommended_Practices.pdf
 - Allow regular meetings to be conducted during paid hours
 - Ensure that employees have the opportunity to communicate opinions on the effectiveness of worker safety regulations and suggestions for improvement.
 - The Safety Committee should automatically receive all copies of the employer's OSHA 300 illness and Injury logs as well as the facilities' personnel-hours
 - Ensure that safety committee members have proper, secured storage for OSHA 300 logs as these logs can often contain sensitive employee data.
- No worker shall be punished or discriminated against in any way for refusing work that he or she believes in good faith to be immediately dangerous or for bringing health and safety problems to the attention of any person.

AND

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Verify that weekly safety and equipment usage demonstrations and training are being conducted for all employees.
- The program operates in a documented safety-training system that complies with ANSI Z245 safety guidelines as applicable. <https://swana.org/Safety/ANSIStandardsforWasteandRecycling.aspx>
- Monitor, record, and report worker related illnesses, fatalities and injuries
- Conduct 'Root Cause' analysis of any injuries or fatalities that occur in the system
- Provide "Accessible" Training that is available in English and the predominant/fluent language of the workers being trained:
 - Mandatory weekly for new hires for at least the first quarter
 - Ongoing monthly training for existing employees
 - Features graphic-based or video training;
 - American National Standard (ANSIZ245) symbols are used

⁶⁷ "Waste disposal facility" includes transfer stations, landfills and thermal conversion facilities.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

- Meet all the requirements of Tier 1,

AND

- Workers receive additional worker training program(s) recognized by their collective bargaining representative.

OR

- Provide “Advanced operational training” covering fixed and onsite mobile equipment
 - Training should include both “classroom” and “field” components
 - For training on existing equipment or improved existing equipment, Trainers should have a minimum of 2 years of full-time operating experience on the equipment that is the subject of the training and demonstrated training experience of 100 hours, or equivalent certification.
 - For newly introduced equipment (e.g., robotics), Trainers should have a minimum of 6 months of field or laboratory operating experience on the equipment that is the subject of the training and demonstrated training experience of 100 hours, or equivalent certification.

Potential Strategies:

- Accomplish increased operational regulation, safety resources, and safety awareness campaigns by implementing the applicable safety recommendations.
- Comply with applicable ANSI Z245 requirements
- Complete all employee safety and health training programs
- Complete and record Risk Assessments for all work tasks
- Implement a system to report near-misses
- Implement and follow a Safe Driving Policy & training for facility mobile equipment (option: using SWANA’s template)
- Incentivize workers for monitoring, recording, and reporting worker fatalities and injuries
- Conduct regular safety training at least weekly for all employees
- Create and maintain standard operating procedures based on industry best practices
- Disconnect incentive programs from accident-free periods
- Regularly hold focus group meetings comprised of employees only to discuss the effectiveness of worker safety regulation, and suggestions for improvement.
- Have a safety committee regularly present findings and recommendations from these employee-only focus groups to the employer
- Follow recommendations found in: <http://www.forworkingfamilies.org/sites/pwf/files/publications/SustainableAndSafeRecycling.pdf>.
- Conduct ‘Experience Modification Rating’ evaluation of key safety programs.

PCD Credit 8: OSHA-Compliant Disposal Facilities (1-2 points)

Intent:

Promote safe and efficient operation of waste disposal facilities.⁶⁸

Local Government Requirements

Prevent or identify and correct OSHA-related operational violations and/or recommendations in all OSHA covered facilities under the operational or ownership control of the Local Government.

Tier 1: (1 point)

- Demonstrate a current OSHA-compliant safety plan that has been updated within the past 2 years.
- Within the last year, conduct an OSHA (or equivalent)-Level audit by a qualified auditor following the official forms, which must be completely filled out.

Qualified auditors include:

- Federal or State OSHA inspector;
- Insurance inspector (must have current CSP, or CIH certification);
- Union CIH or equivalent corporate EHS safety official

Full remediation of all OSHA (or equivalent) incidents reported.

Tier 2: (+1 point)

Fulfill Tier 1 requirements and demonstrate a program of annual or more frequent safety audits utilizing a qualified safety inspector.

OR

ALTERNATIVE COMPLIANCE PATHWAY:

Participate in the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) at the Merit or Star level. See OSHA Guidelines: www.osha.gov/dcsp/vpp/index.html

Potential Strategies:

- List all OSHA violations and state of resolution for the last 5 years.
- Only use certified disposal facilities.

⁶⁸ "Waste disposal facility" includes transfer stations, landfills and thermal conversion facilities.

PCD Credit 9: *Commitment to Living Wage* (1 point)

Intent:

Increase career commitment and employee retention through good remuneration and benefits.

Local Government Requirements

To fulfill this credit, applicants must:

- Ensure all workers are paid not less than a Living Wage, including hourly wage, benefits, and paid overtime
 - To determine the Living Wage for your region, utilize [MIT's Living Wage Calculator](#) or [EPI's Family Budget Calculator](#). If you are using a living wage calculator, the calculated Living Wage should not exceed the Median Household Income⁶⁹.

OR

- An Alternative Living Wage set at 150% of the Minimum Wage.⁷⁰

AND

- Provide workers with a health insurance plan that has the characteristics of an Affordable Care Act qualified plan for pre-existing conditions, young adult coverage, cancellation and appeals, benefit limits, and preventative care. The health insurance plan should also have, at a minimum, an actuarial value of 90% that covers all employees and family members, with no employee/family payroll premium deductions or waiting.

⁶⁹ SWEET uses a 2024 Median Household Income of \$77,719 defined by the Census of the United States. <https://www.census.gov/search-results.html?q=median+income&page=1&stateGeo=none&searchtype=web&cssp=SERP&charset=UTF-8>

⁷⁰ As will be further described in the Certification Manual, the Living Wage is calculated as follows--Either use the referenced living wage calculators or use the Alternative Living wage. The Alternative Living Wage is defined as 150% of the Minimum Wage. The Minimum Wage is defined as the average of 1) the existing Federal Minimum Wage of \$7.25/hr., indexed to current dollars using the CPI deflator (https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm), currently \$11.02 and 2) Fifteen dollars (\$15/hr.). For the Pilot Program, the Applicable Minimum Wage is calculated as \$13.00/hr. The Alternative Living Wage for SWEET is calculated to be \$19.50/hr.

SWEEP Standard Innovation Credits

Innovation refers to practices or actions not necessarily outlined in the 5 core Performance Categories (SMMP, WGP, Collection, and PCR and PCD), but demonstrate exemplary performance within solid waste policy, generation, collection, and/or recovery processing and disposal. These supplemental credits serve to acknowledge extraordinary investment, development, and/or implementation of innovative mechanisms related to solid waste management.

Points in the Innovation section are like “extra credit” points on an exam. They do count toward the final score of the certification but are not included as part of the core 100-point denominator of the certification scale.

Up to 10 credits will be given for innovative approaches to waste management including:

- Exemplary performance of at least 1 performance increment compared with the credit Requirements.
 - E.g., if the first tier is a 10 percent improvement and a second tier is 20 percent improvement, Innovation credit will be given for 30+ percent improvement
- “Exploration Credits” proposed by SWEEP
- Previously approved Innovation Credits from other certified entities.
- Project specific Innovation proposed by entities seeking SWEEP certification

Examples of Innovative Approaches

Sustainable Materials Management Policy

- Organizations share innovative, open-source advancements for the greater good of the industry and environmental enhancement

Waste Generation Prevention

- Monitoring, development, investment, and advancement toward innovative processes and technology
- Investment in research
- Implementation of pilot studies

Post Collection Recovery and Post Collection Disposal

- Innovative steps or actions that a facility invests in to improve the recovery of materials
- Monitoring, development, investment, and advancement toward innovative processes and technology
- Investment in research
- Implementation of pilot projects
- Implementation of carbon capture technologies

Exploration Credits

Exploration credit: SMMP Performance Path

Exploration Credit 1: *Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Lifecycle Analysis and Policy Program (10-19 points)*

Intent:

Drive to the best environmental solutions for materials managed (generated, disposed, and processed) by local governments.

Local Government Requirements

Develop a sustainable materials management (SMM) or equivalent (e.g., Zero Waste, Closed Loop, Circular Economy) business and/or strategic plan that supports the achievement of the goals of the SMMP Minimum Performance Credit, where the program is designed to optimize the efficiency and the best environmental and social result based on life-cycle principles.

Tier 1 (10 points)

Develop a set of comprehensive long-term economically, socially and environmentally sustainable corporate goals for the company that include provisions for continuous improvement toward waste minimization.

- Support the development of and/or utilize a current⁷¹ comprehensive waste characterization study (WCS) for materials handled within the Company's service area, or the territory of the jurisdiction seeking SWEEP Certification where the Company does business. The WCS should comply with the requirements of SMMP Credit 4: *Regular Waste Characterization and Source Reduction Programs*.
- Conduct material-specific analysis for the top 10 material categories identified in the WCS that prioritizes policies and programs that provide the greatest environmental benefit as identified by the largest impacts derived from the EPA WARM model. The analysis should assess environmental elements of the material categories, as well as social and economic elements.
- At a minimum, the analysis should include:
 - Evaluating and documenting
 - For Companies operating Landfills: All GHGs, including anthropogenic and biogenic emissions emitted from disposal facilities and sites; Using the EPA EJ screen tool (<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>) The number of people impacted within a given radius and the demographics and health disparities of the impacted population.
 - For Companies with Incinerators/Waste-to-Energy plants:
 - All GHGs, including anthropogenic and biogenic emissions emitted from disposal facilities and sites

⁷¹ Current means conducted within the last 7 years.

- Criteria air pollutants
- Hazardous air pollutants
- Using the EPA EJ screen tool (<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>) The number of people impacted within a given radius and the demographics and health disparities of the impacted population.
- Jobs generated
- The Plan will also require keeping track of how all materials identified in the WCS are being:
 - Generated: (Tons Generated equals: Tons of Disposal/waste to energy + composting/digestion + recycling)
 - Reduced: The Plan will include per-capita waste generation reduction goals over at least 10 years from the Base Year at the start of the program.
- Achieve per capita waste disposal as follows:

Points	MSW + Bulky Waste/Capita	C&D/Capita
5	4.6 lbs./capita	1.4 lbs./capita
+3	4.5 lbs./capita	1.35 lbs./capita
+2	4.4 lbs./capita	1.3 lbs./capita

- List the strategies, policies, programs, and projects being considered to achieve these goals.
- Optimize the sustainability of operational value chains⁷²

Tier 2 (19 points)

- Conduct the comprehensive SMM analysis and develop policy program solution described in Tier 1 based on analysis using a lifecycle assessment tool, such as **MEBCalc**, or equivalent, instead of EPA WARM. Use the baseline assumptions described in the Certification Manual.
- Achieve per capita waste disposal as follows:

Points	MSW + Bulky Waste/Capita	C&D/Capita
8	4.6 lbs./capita	1.4 lbs./capita
+6	4.5 lbs./capita	1.35 lbs./capita
+5	4.4 lbs./capita	1.3 lbs./capita

- List the strategies, policies, programs, and projects being considered to achieve these goals.

Potential Strategies

- Conduct Waste characterization studies that identify discards generated upstream, mid-stream, and downstream.
- Conduct gap analysis of SMM programs implemented in residential and non-residential sectors.
- Prepare a Zero Waste plan based on accepted standards of TRUE zero waste and Zero Waste USA.org.

⁷² A value chain is a progression of activities that a business or firm performs in order to deliver goods and services of value to an end customer.

Exploration Credit 2: Collective Bargaining Agreement (2 points)

Intent:

Provide best practices working conditions and worker empowerment in waste collection, processing and disposal activities and facilities.

Local Government Requirements

Have in place a collective bargaining agreement for workers engaged in waste collection, recovered materials processing, recovered organics processing, or waste disposal facilities.

Potential Strategies:

- Provide opportunities for facility workers to organize.

Exploration Credit 3: Use of Measured, Verified or Certified Data (2 points)

Intent:

Develop materials management policy and projects based on real, current data, rather than estimates or assumptions.

Local Government Requirements

For SWEEP credits where estimated data or calculations are called for: Utilize measured, verified data or certify to a program that verifies data. Applies to credits WGP Minimum Performance Credit 1, WGP Credit 3, SWC Credit 2, PCR Credit 1, PCR Credit 2.

Bonus points are available to all credits where qualifying data is used, up to the 10-point Innovation Credit limit

Potential Strategies:

- Develop an ongoing measurement and reporting program for waste management activities.

Exploration Credit 4: Optimize Supply Chain Efficiency (1 point)

Intent:

Maximize local environmental and economic benefits and minimize excess transportation.

Local Government Requirements

Locate single and dual stream recycling facilities within 20 miles of the Local Government jurisdiction.

- Facilities must meet the Good Neighbor requirements of PCD Credit 10

Potential Strategies

- Maximize waste transport route efficiency
- Cite and construct facilities within designated service areas
- Work with broker to determine nearby available markets for recycled content

Exploration Credit 5: Non-residential Hazardous Waste (1 point)**Intent**

To ensure proper handling and disposal of non-residential hazardous waste by the Local Government entity and greater community in order to prevent negative human health impacts and pollution of the natural environment.

Local Government Requirements

Extend Hazardous Waste programs to the nonresidential sector for Universal Wastes.

As part of local stormwater requirements, restrict usage and impose management requirements on Universal Wastes.

Potential Strategies

- Develop hazardous waste collection events with non-residential customers in the jurisdiction
- Work with local commercial haulers to provide hazardous waste educational materials to customers

Exploration Credit: Landfill Mining and Reclamation (1-2 points)**Intent:**

Recover useful materials from existing landfills and clean and restore these areas to non-restricted uses.

Local Government Requirements

In consultation with State Agencies and ensuring compliance with RCRA and EPA regulations,

Tier 1: (1 Point)

Conduct landfill mining: Recover materials in existing landfills for re-use. Ensure that materials are tested for toxic components. Protect mining operations to avoid air and water releases, Implement stormwater management requirements from PCD Credit 2. Implement worker safety requirements from PCD Credits 6 & 7

Tier 2: (+1 Point)

Redesign existing landfill to facilitate future mining activities. Ensure that storage areas are protected from rainwater and sealed quickly. Avoid combining organic and inorganic materials in the same storage area.

Potential Strategies

- Coordinate with local and state environmental regulators to ensure that the mining plan is protective of worker and nearby community health
- Utilize geological mapping technology to identify potentially problematic areas of the landfill

Exploration Credit: Landfill Gas Utilization Analysis (1-2 points)

Intent:

Demonstrate economic and environmental benefits of alternative uses of landfill gas.

Local Government Requirements

Utilizing the resources and assumptions outlined in the SWEEP Certification Manual, conduct a net benefit analysis that assesses whether producing energy from LFG recovery systems produces less GHGs than

- flaring emissions or (1 point)
- producing energy from fossil fuels. (1 point)

Potential Strategies

Utilize the calculator developed by EPA's Methane Outreach Program (LMOP)

<https://www.epa.gov/lmop/landfill-gas-energy-benefits-calculator>

Local Government Standard Scorecard

Applicant: _____ Reviewer: _____ Date: _____

No.	Credit	Possible Points	Applies? (Y/N) ¹	Points Earned
1. Sustainable Materials Management Policies (SMMP)		20		
<i>Efficiency & Effectiveness KPI</i>				
MPC 1	Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Policy and Programs	MPC⁴		
Cr. 1	Materials Processing Infrastructure and Market Development Policy	2		
Cr. 2	Adoption of Diversion and Recycling Goals	1-3		
Cr. 3	Regular Waste Characterization and Generation Study Policy	2		
Cr. 4	Advanced Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Policy	2		
<i>Environmental Performance KPI</i>				
Cr. 5	Solid Waste Greenhouse Gas and Air Emissions Footprint Reduction Policy	1-3		
Cr. 6	Source Reduction Policy	3		
<i>Economic Performance KPI</i>				
Cr. 7	Market-Based Waste Management Program Policy	1-3		
<i>Public Participation KPI</i>				
Cr. 8	Local Government Policy for Comprehensive Public Participation in Solid Waste Management Program Development	1-2		
2. Waste Generation & Prevention (WGP)		18		
<i>Efficiency & Effectiveness KPI</i>				
MPC 1	Measuring and Calculating Waste Generation, Recovery and Disposal	MPC⁴		
Cr. 1	MSW Source Reduction Programs	1-3		
Cr. 2	Product Reuse and Food Rescue Programs/Projects	1-2		
Cr. 3	Measuring and Calculating Source Reduction and Reuse/Rescue Impacts	1-2		
<i>Environmental Performance KPI</i>				
Cr. 4	Litter Prevention and Reduction Infrastructure	1		
<i>Economic Performance KPI</i>				
Cr. 5	Environmentally Preferable Product Procurement (Non-Capital Items)	1-2		
Cr. 6	Sustainable Capital and Utility Procurement	1-3		
Cr. 7	Economic Assessment of Solid Waste Management Program	2		
<i>Public Participation KPI</i>				
Cr. 8	Education and Engagement Programs on Litter & Source Reduction and Reuse	2		
Cr. 9	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)/Small Quantity Generator Chemical Waste Reduction and Engagement Program	1		
3. Solid Waste Collection (SWC)		18		
<i>Efficiency and Effectiveness KPI</i>				
Cr. 1	Alternative Collection Options for Recyclable and Compostable Products and Materials	1		
<i>Environmental Performance KPI</i>				
Cr. 2	Energy and Emissions Optimization of Solid Waste Collection	1-2		
Cr. 3	Alternative Fueled Solid Waste Collection Vehicles	1-2		
Cr. 4	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Small Quantity Generator Chemical Waste Collection Infrastructure	1		
Cr. 5	Minimizing Emissions from Transfer Stations	1-2		
Cr. 6	Minimizing Emissions from Fleet Maintenance Facilities	1-2		
<i>Economic Performance KPI</i>				
Cr. 7	Solid Waste Collection Cost Transparency	2		
<i>Working Conditions & Community Impact KPI</i>				
Cr. 8	Commitment to Safe Working Conditions	2		
Cr. 9	OSHA Compliant Practices and Safe Vehicle Processes	1-3		
Cr. 10	Commitment to Living Wage	1		
4. Post Collection Recovery (PCR)		29		
<i>Efficiency and Effectiveness KPI</i>				
MPC 1	Minimum Diversion/Maximum Per Capita Disposal Rate	MPC⁴		
Cr. 1	Material Recovery Optimization	1-2		

No.	Credit	Possible Points	Applies? (Y/N) ¹	Points Earned
Cr. 2	Wet Organic Material Recovery Optimization	1-2		
Cr. 3	Minimize Bale/Output Contamination Rate	1-2		
Cr. 4	Producing High Quality Products from Recovered Organic Materials	1-2		
Cr. 5	Wet Organics Processing Infrastructure	1-2		
Cr. 6	Regional/Local Recycling Supply Chain	1-2		
Environmental Performance KPI				
Cr. 7	Energy Efficient and Low Emissions Organics Processing Operations	1-2		
Cr. 8	Energy Efficient and Low Emissions Materials Recovery Operations	1		
Cr. 9	Clean and Efficient Material Recovery and Organics Processing Facilities	1		
Cr. 10	Renewable or Alternative Fueled On-site Mobile Equipment for Recovery and Organics Processing Facilities	1		
Cr. 11	Materials Recovery and Organics Processing Facility Stormwater Management	1		
Economic Performance KPI				
Cr. 12	Material Recovery Cost Transparency	1-2		
Working Conditions and Community Impact KPI				
Cr. 13	Good Neighbor Practices	1-3		
Cr. 14	Post-Collection Recovery Facility Safety Protocols and Training	1-2		
Cr. 15	OSHA-Compliant Material Recovery & Organics Processing Facilities	1-3		
Cr. 16	Commitment to Living Wage	1		
5. Post Collection Disposal (PCD)		15		
Environmental Performance KPI				
Cr. 1	Renewable or Alternative Fueled On-Site Mobile Equipment for Disposal Facilities	1		
Cr. 2	Disposal Facility Stormwater Management	1		
Cr. 3	Landfill Emissions Minimization	1-2		
Cr. 4	Effective Utilization of Recovered Landfill Methane	1-2		
Economic Performance KPI				
Cr. 5	Material Disposal Cost Transparency	1-2		
Working Conditions/Community Impact Performance KPI				
Cr. 6	Good Neighbor Practices	1-2		
Cr. 7	Post-Collection Disposal Facility Safety Protocols and Training	1-2		
Cr. 8	OSHA-Compliant Disposal Facilities	1-2		
Cr. 9	Commitment to Living Wage	1		
6. Innovation (bonus)		Up to 10		
Expl. 1	Comprehensive Sustainable Materials Management Lifecycle Analysis and Policy Program (SMMP Performance Path)	10-19 ²		
Innov.	Innovation and Exploration Credits, including Reciprocity (up to 5) ³	Up to 10		
Core total (SMMP + WGP + SWC + PCR + PCD)		100		
Applicable core points (sum of possible points for credits that apply)				
Score: core points earned ÷ applicable core points				%
Minimum Performance Credits achieved (0-3)				

Certification Levels

Level	Points (% of applicable core points)	MPCs required	Credits per applicable category
Bronze	25-39%	0	1
Silver	40-54%	1	2
Gold	55-74%	2	3
Platinum	75% or more	3	4

¹ Mark "N" for credits outside the applicant's scope (for example, Post Collection Disposal credits when no disposal facility is owned or operated); those points are removed from the applicable core points. The MPC and distribution requirements also apply only to Performance Categories within scope.

² Exploration Credit 1 is the SMMP Performance Path, an alternative to the Prescriptive Path. If it is pursued, no Prescriptive SMMP Credits (Credits 1-8) are awarded.

³ Innovation points (up to 10, including up to 5 for Reciprocity) count toward the final score but are excluded from the core-point denominator and do not satisfy the distribution requirement.

⁴ Minimum Performance Credits (MPCs) carry no points; the number achieved sets the highest eligible certification level. MPCs do not count toward the distribution requirement. Credits count toward distribution when achieved at any tier.