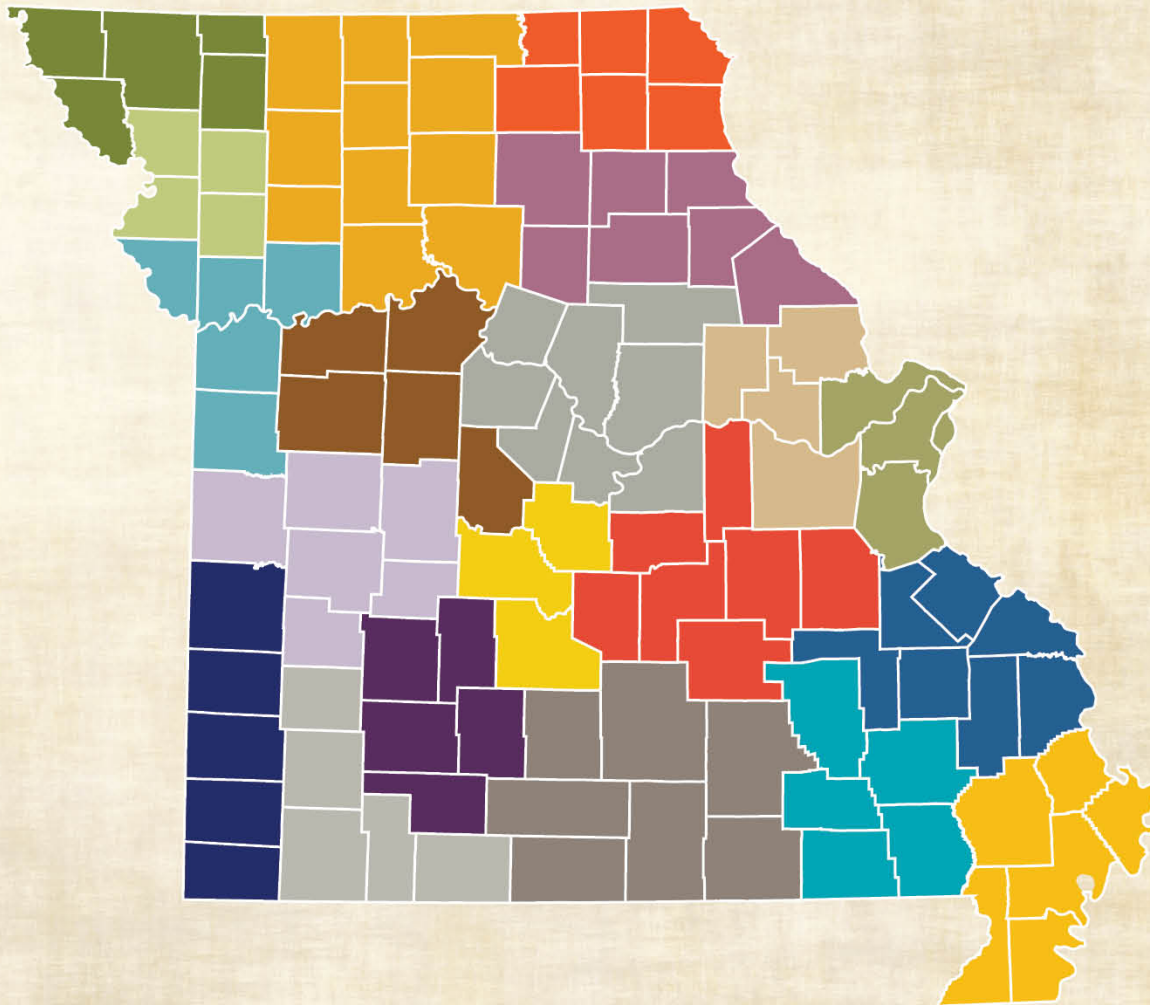

Recycling in Missouri:

Expanding our economy
Strengthening our communities
Improving our environment

A 2013 Progress Report



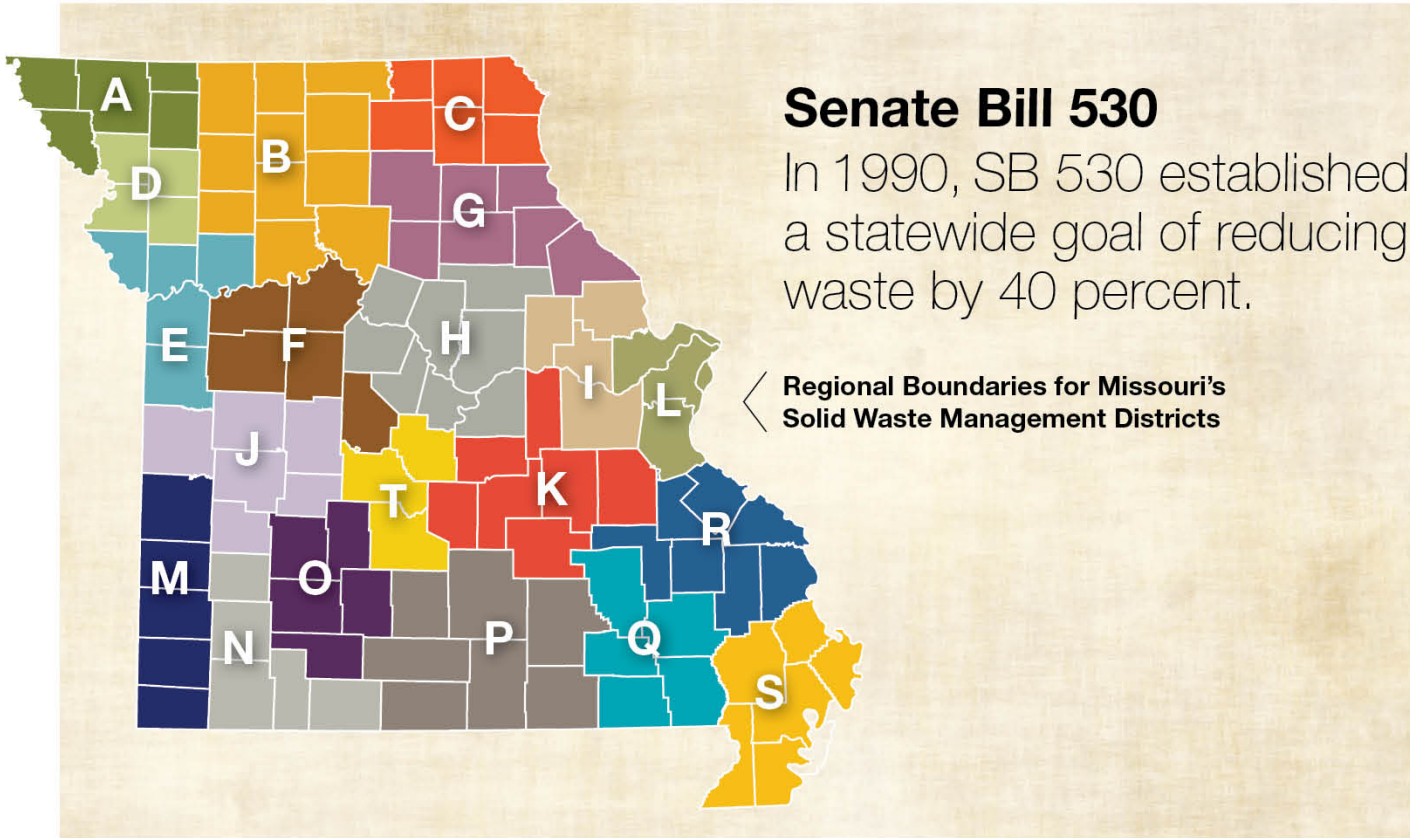
Recycling in Missouri

The historical growth of recycling was the result of national and state investment in recycling infrastructure and education. In Missouri, the passage of Senate Bill 530 created a new statewide recycling initiative that focused on solid waste best management practices, including source reduction, resource recovery and recycling. It provided a tool for local communities to take a liability—waste—and turn it into an opportunity.

Senate Bill 530 also created a statewide solid waste management fund, supported by a small portion of the tipping fees charged by landfills for waste disposal.

Twenty Solid Waste Management Districts were also created to expand waste reduction and recycling at the local level. Annually, the districts award grants from the solid waste management fund to support projects that implement the districts’ waste reduction plans.

This report illustrates just a handful of the many success stories that demonstrate Missouri’s return on the investment that SB 530 set in motion. That investment has grown our economy, protected our environment and strengthened communities across the state.



Recycling Expands the Economy

Recycling and reuse are the first steps in a chain of economic activity that feed into larger and more profitable components. Statistics on recycling and jobs from the Institute for Local Self-Reliance estimate that for every 10,000 tons of solid waste going to landfills, one job is created. However, if kept out of the landfill, the same 10,000 tons can create 10 recycling jobs or 75 materials reuse jobs.

25,000 Jobs

in Missouri recycling industries¹

“Waste and Scrap are one of Missouri’s top ten exports totaling \$451million dollars in 2012.” —Missouri Department of Economic Development



¹ Martinich, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 2011

Recycling Expands **the Economy**

Fiberlite Technologies, Region M Solid Waste Management District



Fiberlite Technologies turns waste paper and wood into products that increase energy efficiency. The company began recycling paper into insulation in 1985 and by 2005 was producing 20 million pounds of insulation annually. Even with the downturn in housing construction they were able to keep their full-time workforce employed.

Fiberlite is licensed under Incide Technologies to manufacture an innovative product line called InCide® Pest Control Insulation. In 2009, Fiberlite opened a paper recycling drop-off center receiving over 80,000 pounds monthly, and with no other recycling service in the area, Fiberlite's drop-off center fills that gap in service.



Isom Insulation installing InCide® insulation

- From 2004-2005, EIERA and SWMD M together funded a \$50,000 equipment expenditure to improve Fiberlite's workflow and output **increasing sales 148% and production 144%.**
- In 2011, Region M funding of \$50,000 provided partial funding for a new bagger that facilitated a **40% increase in output.**

All Points Recycling, Region N, Southwest Missouri SWMD



All Points Recycling is a woman-owned enterprise that employs 15 workers and recycles materials from Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Brenda Fletcher and Leslie Smith began the business in 2006 and by 2008 had grown it into a successful recycling processing

operation. All Points serves a radius of 250 miles around their plant. Because surrounding communities have trash service only once a month, All Points provides a much needed service by collecting recyclables and giving neighboring towns an environmental benefit.

- In 2011, about 2.6 million pounds were recycled and in 2012 the rate ballooned to 4.4 million pounds. Those materials were put back into producing goods, while area residents, companies and organizations **benefited from \$108,290 in avoided landfill disposal costs.**
- Region N funded \$49,248 to provide All Points with a vertical baler, a semi tractor trailer, two forklifts and a portable conveyor **increasing production efficiency by 30%.**

"All Points Recycling has a great relationship with Region N. They awarded us grant money we used to purchase more equipment and employ more people in our community," said Leslie Smith, owner.



Ripple Glass, Region E, Mid-America Regional Council SWMD



After several years of business planning by the visionaries at Boulevard Brewing Company, Ripple Glass was a solution for recovering all of Kansas City's glass. The company now serves Missouri and the broader region. Glass that was discarded is now processed and sold to a local company that converts the recycled glass into fiberglass insulation. Amber glass is turned back into bottles, including those used by Boulevard Brewing. Ripple has eight full-time employees and indirectly supports jobs for the haulers who bring the glass for processing.



Stacia Stelk, Executive Director of Ripple Glass, credits the MARC (District E) SWMD for helping to launch Ripple's recycling program. **"The district was instrumental with professional expertise and grant funding to build a new business that increases recycling and created eight Missouri jobs."**

Recycling Strengthens **Communities**

Community involvement and civic responsibility form the backbone of many recycling enterprises in Missouri. Recycling and reuse provide dignified and meaningful employment for persons with disabilities at more than half of the 90 sheltered workshops in Missouri. Fifteen Habitat for Humanity Restores are located in every corner of the state to reduce waste and to provide a lower-cost alternative to hardware stores. Recycling provides opportunities for environmental education, enables communities to make or save money, and helps people work together for a common cause. **This is especially true in the rural areas of the state.**

School Education, Region J, Quad-Lakes SWMD



An important achievement of the 20 solid waste districts is their role in the coordination, funding and (in some cases) serving as the sole provider of recycling education. An example comes from the Quad-Lakes SWMD where In-The-Green Productions was funded to provide multi-media performances to 5,010 students in local schools. Through music and entertainment, students learned how they are responsible for wastes they create, and are encouraged to reduce, reuse, recycle and compost.



Fun and learning by In-the-Green Productions

Hope Haven Sheltered Workshop, Region B, North Missouri SWMD



Located in Livingston County, Hope Haven Industries serves 11 counties. Hope Haven's staff of 61, including 45 disabled employees, are involved in glass recycling and pallet construction. The workshop received SWMD funding for a recycling trailer, a service truck and a semi to haul recyclable materials which enables them to **divert 300 tons of material annually and manufacture and repair 10,000 pallets per year.**



Bollinger County Recycling, Region R, Southeast Missouri SWMD



Bollinger County had no options for recycling in 2009. A citizen volunteer group lead by Paula Bridges and Tory Shade changed that with a grant and a plan. Southeast Missouri SWMD funded a commercial can opener, a scale and a small stipend to compensate volunteers that started the all volunteer operation. **Today, Bollinger County Recycling operates out of a refurbished barn and is growing with the help of SWMD grants for a used baler and forklift.**



Recycling Improves **the Environment**

Missouri is home to scenic waterways and outstanding natural landscapes that are important to tourism and to the millions who fish, hunt, camp and boat in our state's pure natural beauty. Serious problems with open dumps and unlined landfills threatened our natural areas until environmental legislation, including Senate Bill 530, was passed in the 1990's. Over 20 years later, it is still a fact that recycling is one of the easiest ways for everyone, anywhere, at any age, to reduce greenhouse gases, conserve natural resources, reduce landfill pollution and move Missouri toward sustainability.

Household Hazardous Waste Management, Region K, Ozark Rivers SWMD

Region K covers seven counties in central Missouri. The district supports HHW collections with two permanent collections sites in Rolla and St. Robert. Participation has grown by 40% reflecting the strength of education and awareness of the importance of proper HHW management.



“The use of the HHW facility is increasing as awareness rises and the population learns about the negative impact of improper disposal on our natural environment,” stated Brady Wilson, district chair and operator of the Rolla facility.

East Central Missouri Recycling Center, Region I, East Central SWMD

The East Central Missouri Recycling drop-off center that serves Franklin, Lincoln, Montgomery and Warren counties demonstrates that citizens will do the right thing when given the opportunity. This investment by Region I created one full-time and one part-time job and has seen a dramatic increase in participation since opening on Earth Day in 2010. **Material collected more than doubled from 200 tons in 2011 to 581 tons in 2012.**



Midwest Recycling Center, Region L, St. Louis-Jefferson SWMD

Many people helped Joplin recover from the devastating 2011 F-5 tornado. One unsung hero was the Midwest Recycling Center that helped to sort, demanufacture and recycle 156 tons of damaged electronic equipment from the storm. The St. Louis-Jefferson SWMD has assisted Midwest Recycling with operating costs and event support for recycling televisions and keeping lead and other heavy metals out of landfills. SWMD funding has enabled recovery of millions of pounds of electronics in addition to **growing their workforce from three employees to a workforce of 52!**



Recycling Across the State

Region F, Pioneer Trails Regional Planning Commission

Since 2008, the Missouri State Fair has showcased recycling thanks to the efforts of Pioneer Trails Regional Planning Commission. They coordinate volunteers for an education booth that highlights Missouri-made recycled content products, and fund the recycling collection done by supervised correction center inmates.

Year	Recycling Recovered	Number of Bins	Fair Attendance
2008	4.5 tons	77	310,851
2012	6.6 tons	330	353,700



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\$2,000,000+

has been saved by Missouri State Government on waste hauling services as a direct result of recycling from 2007–2012 —**MO State Recycling Program, 2013**

The Future: Jobs and 75% Waste Diversion

Going green is smart business.

The success we celebrate in Missouri today by “going green” grew from the investment in recycling infrastructure provided by the solid waste management fund.

The future opportunity for Missouri lies in recovering the value from the estimated 48% of resources still going to landfills, setting a new 75% waste diversion goal and continuing the investment to meet the demands of the green economy.

Increasing the national waste diversion rate to 75% will significantly and sustainably

create 1.5 million additional jobs by 2030.¹

¹ Tellus Institute with Sound Resource Management, 2011



“Green jobs are expected to grow at a far faster rate than other types of jobs within Missouri. The conversion, distribution and sale of recycled raw materials create jobs integral to the green economy.”

—2010, *Missouri Green Jobs Report*

“Greener industries grow faster than the overall economy.”

—2012, Economic Policy Institute (EPI) and utilizing 2012 data on green jobs from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

“Core green businesses have grown considerably over the last few years, even through the recession. As stated, employment in the St. Louis core green economy has grown by 54% from 1995 to 2008, compared to 4% in the entire economy.”

—2011, *St. Louis Green Jobs Report*



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