



# Focus on: Five Year Update of the Washington State Solid & Hazardous Waste Plan




**VISION & PRIORITIES OF THE STATE PLAN**


We can transition to a society where waste is viewed as inefficient, and where most wastes and toxic substances have been eliminated. This will contribute to economic, social and environmental vitality.




Increase our focus on manufacturing & use phases, not just on end-of-life issues



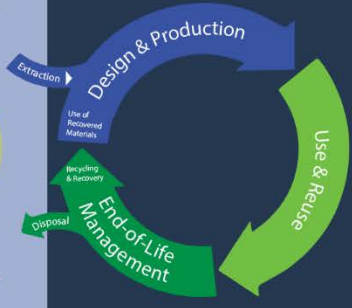
Reduce toxic threats in products and industrial processes



Increase efficiency of recycling (including organic processing) systems, and maximize effectiveness of existing solid and hazardous waste infrastructure



Mitigate climate change through waste reduction, reuse, & recycling



The circular diagram illustrates the sustainable materials management approach, showing a cycle of: Design & Production, Use & Reuse, End-of-Life Management, and Recycling & Recovery. It also includes labels for Extraction, Use of Recovered Materials, and disposal.

## State Plan Website

<https://ecology.wa.gov/beyondwaste>

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## Submit comments online at:

<http://swm.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=pNUT7>

## Read First Draft Update at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/2004057.html>

## Time to Update the State Waste Plan

It's time to update the State Solid and Hazardous Waste Plan: Moving Washington Beyond Waste and Toxics. Similar to how local governments are required to update their solid waste plans every five years, the state tries to do the same. We created a first draft of the five-year update (and would like your input. You can provide input on our website.

**Comments are due January 15, 2021.**

## Background

The 2015 plan took a fresh look at the 2004 and 2009 plans. Based on significant input from interested parties, we significantly changed the plan structure and content. We adopted a sustainable materials management approach and established the following five plan sections, each with goals and actions:

- Managing Hazardous Waste & Materials (includes Moderate Risk Waste)
- Managing Solid Wastes & Materials (includes organics)
- Reducing Impacts of Materials & Products
- Measuring Progress
- Providing Outreach & Information

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For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. [Visit Ecology's](#) website for more information.



## What's Changing?

While the direction outlined in the 2015 plan is still helpful and needed, the waste world changed over the past five years.

The recycling system changed in response to export markets no longer accepting commingled recyclables. Concerns about plastics, food waste, climate change, toxic chemicals and products, and Puget Sound health have grown. The Washington Legislature implemented new laws in some of these areas.

This update addresses these realities as well as continuing the unfinished work from the 2015 plan.

## Tell Us What You Think

The first draft plan update is ready for your input using E-Comments. You may comment on the entire plan or just the areas you are most familiar with or interested in.

### First draft:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/2004057.html>

### E-Comments:

<http://swm.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=pNUT7>

**Comment are due by January 15, 2021.** If you need more time, please contact us.

To make a comment, enter your thoughts in the text area. We have split commenting up by five chapters and their subsections, followed by a "General Comments" section where you can upload an attachment. Use the drop-down menus at the bottom of your screen to read and comment on any sections you wish.

Any information you provide on the comment form or in an attachment may be publicly disclosed and posted on the Internet.

## What's Next?

Following the public comment period, we will address comments and publish a second draft for final public input. The second draft will include additional content, such as an introduction and a glossary. We expect to publish the final version of the State Solid and Hazardous Waste Plan in 2021.

## Stay Informed

To stay informed of the plan update process, sign up for the [listserv](#). ([LISTSERV - WA-STATE-WASTE-PLAN Archives - LISTSERV.ECOLOGY.WA.GOV](#))