
SWANA TECHNICAL POLICY T-1
INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Policy

SWANA supports the practice of integrated solid waste management. Integrated solid waste management is a series of complimentary actions to reduce the quantities of solid waste generated and manage that which is generated in an economically and environmentally sound manner. The selection of methods of management should be based upon the environmental, economic and public policies of local government. Integrated solid waste management encompasses materials use practices, solid waste reduction, planning, financing, management and operations, storage, collection and transport, recycling, composting, combustion and landfilling.

Position

SWANA views ISWM to include the following:

- materials use policies - initiatives by industry that result in product and packaging designs which reduce the amount of product or package to be discarded or enhances the reuse, recycling or longevity of products and packaging;
- solid waste reduction - initiatives by manufacturers, businesses, institutions, governments and individuals to reduce the amount of solid waste generated;
- planning - initiatives and steps of local government units [LGUs] to develop comprehensive solid waste management [SWM] plans for the SW generated within, or imported into their jurisdictions;
- financing - initiatives and steps taken by LGUs to provide the appropriate capital money required for the implementation of SWM plans;
- funding - initiatives and steps taken by LGUs to provide the money necessary to operate, maintain, manage and pay debt service on the ISWM system;

- management and operations - initiatives and steps taken by LGUs to implement ISWM plans, including determination of feasibility of the ownership and operations of systems and facilities and the procurement and management of private sector service providers;
- storage, collection and transport - initiatives and steps taken to store, collect and transport SW generated within, or imported into a SWM system;
- siting of ISWM facilities based on local land use, planning and zoning and shall not discriminate based on racial, ethical, cultural or economic characteristics of a community.
- processing methods including:
 - ⇒ recycling of materials,
 - ⇒ composting of the organic fraction of SW,
 - ⇒ combustion with the recovery of energy, and
 - ⇒ sanitary landfilling.

SWANA views these as a menu of methods that can be used to manage SW. The selection of methods of management should be based upon the environmental, economic and public policies of local government.

SWANA supports the policy that LGUs must be responsible for solid waste management, but that LGUs need not own or operate all, or any part of, a solid waste management system. With this responsibility, LGUs must plan, determine the manner in which SW is to be managed and assure that SWM plans are implemented to protect the public interest.

SWANA supports the use of public and/or private sector service providers to provide solid waste operational services as they apply to the ISWM planning developed by local governments. Such services should be provided under local government control, consistent with established local government solid waste management plans and within a competitive environment established by local government. The role of the public and/or private sector service providers is to provide SWM services consistent with Federal, State, Provincial and local government requirements within a competitive environment.

SWANA supports the use of a competitive process by LGU's that evaluates cost, quality of service, and the long term protection of public health, safety and environmental quality when selecting to use public, private or a combination of public and private service providers to provide SWM services.