

HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE POLICY COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
1:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Introduction/Opening Comments

2. Clerk's Report

- a. Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2021 – Attachment A
- b. Additions to the Agenda

3. R3Source Revenue Updates/Analysis – Attachment B

4. Policy Committee Items

- a. Rules Subcommittee Update
- b. Assistant Solid Waste Manager

5. Informational Items

- a. Household Hazardous Products Collection Update
- b. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update
- c. Beyond 34 Update
- d. Third quarter performance measures – Attachment C
- e. Environmental Enforcement Program – Attachment D
- f. 2021 Awards

6. Tentative Future Agenda Items

7. Policy Committee Members' Comments

8. Public Comments

9. Upcoming Policy Committee Meetings

The next regularly scheduled Policy Committee meeting will be **Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft, 1st Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.**

10. Adjournment (Target Time - 3:00 p.m.)

**HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE POLICY COMMITTEE
MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM**

DATE: November 10, 2021
TO: Hamilton County Solid Waste Policy Committee Members
FROM: Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager

1. Introduction/Opening Comments

NOTICE: This memo is for the meeting to be held Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. This meeting will be held in person and available to the public virtually using Zoom.

Policy Committee information (Agendas, Manager's Memos, Minutes, etc.) is available on R3Source's website at www.hcdoes.org/357/Policy-Committee.

2. Clerk's Report/Additions to the Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the September 15, 2021 Policy Committee meeting are included as Attachment A.
- B. Additions to the Agenda**
Please contact Michelle Balz at 513-946-7789 or michelle.balz@hamilton-co.org if you have items to add to the agenda.

3. R3Source Revenue Updates/Analysis

Updates will be provided on current revenue receipts and comparisons with the prior year, as included as Attachment B.

4. Policy Committee Items

- A. Rules Subcommittee Update**
Members of the Rules Subcommittee can provide an update from the 10/22/2021 and 11/10/2021 meetings.
- B. Assistant Solid Waste Manager**
Currently, the Solid Waste Manager directly supervises six staff members. Given the specialized and often complex responsibilities, it is ideal for one person in Environmental Services to not exceed five directly supervised employees. With the additional responsibilities of the Solid Waste Manager, including budgeting, program planning, supporting the Solid Waste Policy Committee, and solid waste planning, an Assistant Solid Waste Manager is needed to take on supervising a portion of the staff and other leadership responsibilities. This position will improve feedback, supervision, and encouragement of staff, increase communication with our Communications team, and provide a critical leadership role in reducing waste in Hamilton County.

Staff recommendation: Staff recommends approving the addition of a solid waste manager to the solid waste staff.

5. Informational Items

A. Household Hazardous Product Collection Update

Staff will provide a short summary of the HHP event on 10/23/2021.

B. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update

Staff will provide an overview of several sections of Appendix H (Difficult to Manage Waste Streams, Residential Infrastructure) and provide an update on planned stakeholder input.

C. Beyond 34 Update

Staff will provide a brief update on progress for the Beyond 34 initiatives, as requested.

D. 3rd Quarter Performance Measures

Attachment C provides an overview of the third quarter performance measures.

E. Environmental Enforcement Program

Attachment D shows activity of the deputy through October 2021.

F. 2021 Awards

Staff will provide a brief update on plans for the 2021 awards program.

6. Tentative Future Agenda Items

7. Policy Committee Members' Comments

8. Public Comments

9. Upcoming R3Source Meetings

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 19, 2022**. This meeting is currently scheduled be held in person at 250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219, first floor.

10. Adjournment (Target Time: 3:00 p.m.)

Attachment A

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
HAMILTON COUNTY Solid Waste
POLICY COMMITTEE
In person & Zoom**

DATE: September 15, 2021

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

PLACE: Hamilton County Environmental Services
250 William Howard Taft Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

PRESENT: **Policy Committee Members**

Pierce Bruner, Student Representative
Tony DiPuccio, Generator Representative, Chair
Denise Driehaus, County Commissioner
Karen Hurley, General Interest Member
Greg Kesterman, Hamilton County Public Health Representative
Sue Magness, Largest Municipality Representative
Larry Riddle, Rumpke

Staff

Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager
Gage Bradford, Community Specialist
Brad Johnson, Director
Ali Khodadad, Operations Manager
Mike Kramer, Assistant Director
Tom Mohr, Digital/Communications Manager
Cher Mohring, Community Outreach Coordinator
Susan Schumacher, Assistant Solid Waste Specialist, Clerk

Others in Attendance

Nee Fong Chin, Prosecutor's Office
Oria Daugherty, P2 Student
Craig Davidson, Hamilton County Public Health
Carrie Davis, Child Advocacy for Jobs & Equity
Chuck DeJonckheere, Hamilton County Public Health
Dean Ferrier, Rumpke
Matt Hittle, Ohio EPA
Gina Marsh, Chief of Staff for Commissioner Driehaus
Rob Nicolls
Bryan Peak, Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
Amy Townsend-Small, University of Cincinnati
Molly Yeager, Rumpke

ABSENT: **Policy Committee Members**

Bob Gedert, Public Member, Vice Chair
Raj Rajagopal, Township Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. DiPuccio called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm

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2. POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIR

Mr. DiPuccio moved that Ms. Driehaus serve as Chair on the Policy Committee; Ms. Hurley seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

3. CLERK'S REPORT

A. Approval of Minutes – July 21, 2021 Policy Committee Meeting

Ms. Driehaus asked if there were any corrections or additions. Hearing none, Ms. Driehaus asked for a motion to approve. Ms. Magness moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Hurley seconded. All in favor and the minutes were approved.

B. Additions to the Agenda

Mr. DiPuccio congratulated Ms. Mohring on her SWANA Award and stated that it is not given every year, so it is very well deserved.

4. R3SOURCE REVENUE UPDATES/ANALYSIS

Ms. Balz stated that the trend in out-of-district continues which, for the year, is a 2.5% increase in tonnage and an almost four percent increase in revenue over 2020. Ms. Hurley asked how staff felt about out-of-district waste being a larger piece than in-district. Ms. Balz stated that staff focuses on Hamilton County waste reduction however, partnerships are formed with surrounding counties and have examples.

Ms. Magness asked if there was information available on which counties were sending their waste to Hamilton County. Ms. Balz stated she would send something to the Committee.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Pollution Prevention (P2) In tern Program Update

Ms. Daugherty gave a presentation on what she worked on during her 12-week P2 internship at Rhinegeist Brewery. A brief question and answer session ensued.

B. Biochar Project Greenhouse Gas Impact Presentation

Ms. Townshend-Small gave a brief presentation about greenhouse gas impacts and how biochar can reduce this. A brief question and answer session ensued.

POLICY COMMITTEE ITEMS

A. Siting Strategy, Designation Authority, and Rule-Making Authority

Ms. Balz gave a brief presentation and discussed the difference in Siting Strategy, Designation Authority and Rule-Making Authority. Ms. Balz stated that Rule Making Authority has been given to the Board of County Commissioners.

Ms. Driehaus mentioned that the idea of forming a subcommittee was being kicked around to look into what rules we are capable of putting in place and if we are capable of putting rules in place relative to some of the concerns that were raised. The Committee can decide as a group whether or not we want to do that. Ms. Magness asked if a motion should be made to set up a subcommittee. Ms. Driehaus stated that we should have a discussion about it and discuss whether we collectively think that is a good idea but thinks that there is enough interest in this that she personally feels like that is a good way to start to get us into a space where we have an understanding of what our authority is and then, once we determine that, how we want to move forward related to the rules. The Board of County Commissioners, who are not the experts and generally, rely on the expert departments within the County to advise like the Health Department. Ms.

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Driehaus stated that her expectation is that if this group were to come forward with some rules that we would like to see adopted, and that would be presented to the Board of County Commissioners and taken into consideration. The first step is establishing the subcommittee to do some digging in so we can get a real understanding of this. Ms. Driehaus stated that this would be her recommendation but would be curious what everyone else thinks.

Ms. Hurley stated that she first thinks the Committee should decide if rules are necessary and then what those rules might be.

Ms. Balz stated that the Prosecutor's office says that three Policy Committee members can serve on this subcommittee. A discussion ensued regarding the subcommittee.

Mr. DiPuccio suggested officially forming a subcommittee. Ms. Driehaus asked for a motion. Ms. Hurley moved, and Mr. DiPuccio seconded.

Mr. Riddle questioned forming a subcommittee and what could come out of it when there are already statutory guidelines staff must follow. Mr. Riddle further stated the ORC has provided regulations for siting criteria and how solid waste districts operate. Until everyone is understanding what ORC 343.01 says, it seems like the cart is being placed in front of the horse. Mr. Riddle stated that the Committee has already been told by staff that we do not have the authority to establish rules and regulations except for the ones she had on the board. This Committee has no authority to establish regulations that are established by the ORC.

Mr. Riddle stated that he didn't think the Committee was in a position to establish a subcommittee; we cannot overrule the regulations so he is unsure when the Committee doesn't have the authority to establish rules that dictate what solid waste industry will do other than have a discussion.

Mr. Kesterman stated that he understands that he cannot participate on the subcommittee but would like a member to two from his staff to sit on the subcommittee so they can be part of the process.

Mr. Kesterman stated that he has read all of Ms. Davis' emails and there is clearly a reason why we would want to know our authority and what those bounds are.

Mr. Kesterman stated that at some point, the Committee is going to have to ask for a legal opinion from the Hamilton County Prosecutor. Mr. Kesterman stated that in addition to forming a subcommittee, the Committee authorize that the subcommittee to have the ability to make a request to the Prosecutor's Office and limit to the scope of the subcommittee so the Policy Committee can get answers and know what the Prosecutor feels about our authority.

Ms. Driehaus stated that she did not think that specific members of the subcommittee should be discussed and included in the motion; just Ms. Hurley's original motion and a second of that a subcommittee will be established adding to that to see what our authority is.

Ms. Driehaus asked that all members in favor of the motion say aye; All members voted aye and there were no members opposed to the motion and the motion was approved.

Ms. Driehaus stated that the Committee will request that Ms. Balz pull that subcommittee together incorporating the comments from the Policy Committee.

B. Creation of a New Grant Program for 2022

Ms. Balz stated that \$150,000 has been budgeted for 2022 for a grant program. Currently, the Waste Reduction Innovation Grant has a budget of \$100,000. Applications for this grant program have slowed down for this grant program.

Ms. Balz stated that past discussions with the Policy Committee as well as organizations reaching out to Ms. Mohring has shown an interest in a larger grant program.

Ms. Balz stated that currently, the Waste Reduction Innovation Grant is a continuously open application grant and is up to \$10,000. Technically, this grant is non-competitive; the grant awards are based on the merit of that applications are reviewed once a month.

Ms. Balz stated that in addition to the Waste Reduction Grant, staff is proposing a new competitive grant program that would be larger projects; in the range of \$10,000 to \$30,000 which would be a one-time grant. If the Committee approves this new grant, staff could begin getting the application together and start accepting applications in the fourth quarter of this year with the applications being due in the first quarter of 2022.

Ms. Balz stated once these grants were awarded, staff would then know how much money is left for the Waste Reduction Innovation Grant and gave examples of how all the money may not be awarded for the new grant program.

Ms. Balz stated that this would open up more potential for applicants to have larger projects to reduce waste.

Ms. Driehaus asked for a motion to create the new grant program. Ms. Magness moved to create a larger grant program. Mr. Kesterman seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

6. INFORMATONAL ITEMS

A. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update

Ms. Balz stated that staff is working on quite a few sections of analyses which are the first sections. Staff contracted with Economic Environmental Solutions International (EESI) which is operated by Karen Luken who used to be the Solid Waste Manager.

Ms. Balz stated that recently, staff received the contract with Rice Education Consulting who will be our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Consultant (RedCon). They are a local DEI company, but they work all over the country.

Ms. Balz stated that there will be a kick-off meeting next week.

B. Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

R3Source will be having the Household Hazardous Products one-day drop-off event on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 8 am – 1 pm in Madisonville. Residents will be required to register due to only 1,800 being able to drop-off.

The Committee asked if there was a flyer. Mr. Mohr stated that there was not a flyer but would be. Ms. Driehaus asked to send the flyer to the Committee.

A brief discussion ensued on alternatives to this program and the program in general.

C. Second Quarter Performance Measures

Ms. Balz discussed the highlights from the second quarter performance measures such as having two pollution prevention interns this summer; Rhinegeist and the Cincinnati Art Museum, even with covid restrictions, staff have been able to reach over 4,000 (35 facilities) people with our Let's Stop Waste Program, there were over 100,000 visitors to our website, 170 school programs with the vast majority being our educational contractors; they have been able to reach over 3,000 and a lot of these have been virtual.

A brief question/answer ensued.

Mr. Kesterman stated that staff did a good job on the website and rebranding. Ms. Balz gave kudos to Mr. Mohr.

Ms. Hurley asked about the composting working group from Beyond 34. Ms. Balz stated she would look into it.

D. Environmental Enforcement Program

Ms. Balz stated that Attachment D showed activities since January of cases investigated and a map of where the complaints were in the county.

Mr. Peak discussed a new process for mapping complaints using CAGIS that will be able to provide much more information about the complaint.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Magness asked that Bio-Char be a future agenda item since the City will be requesting funds for this program. A brief discussion ensued regarding grant money/seed money for operations.

Mr. Riddle handed out information about Bond Road.

8. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Hurley requested Composting workgroup presentation.

A brief discussion ensued over Bond Road.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Davis discussed an email that was sent to the Committee last night that refutes everything Ms. Balz stated that is from the judges and has been upheld seventeen times since 2018.

Ms. Davis thanked the Committee for bringing up the issue of a subcommittee.

10. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS

The next Hamilton County R3Source Policy Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. The meeting will be a hybrid of in person for Committee members/staff and Zoom for others wishing to attend virtually. The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. at 250 William Howard Taft Road, 1st Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219. Meeting information will be sent at a later date.

11. ADJOURNMENT (Target Time – 3:00 p.m.)

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Ms. Driehaus asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kesterman moved; Ms. Magness seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Attachment B

2021 Tipping Fee Receipts

*Rumpke '21	In District	Out of District	Out of State	Total Tonnage	Total Dollars	Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00		
Feb	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00		
Mar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Apr	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00		
May	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00		
Jun	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Jul	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00		
Aug	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.15	\$0.15		
Sep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.15	\$0.15
Oct				0.00	\$0.00		
Nov				0.00	\$0.00		
Dec				0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Total	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
*Bond Road Landfill							
Rumpke '21	In District	Out of District	Out of State	Total Tonnage	Total Dollars	Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	74,490.31	86,428.03	7,800.43	168,718.77	\$255,146.80		
Feb	68,291.28	75,685.93	7,434.45	151,411.66	\$227,097.59		
Mar	90,175.42	105,941.59	9,611.73	205,728.74	\$311,670.33	525,859.17	\$793,914.72
Apr	88,042.34	106,485.42	8,755.30	203,283.06	\$309,768.48		
May	86,457.08	103,994.57	9,158.14	199,609.79	\$303,604.36		
Jun	88,079.79	110,611.01	9,493.67	208,184.47	\$318,795.48	611,077.32	\$932,168.32
Jul	87,939.97	107,508.35	9,257.17	204,705.49	\$312,213.84		
Aug	85,890.97	103,265.18	8,749.76	197,905.91	\$301,171.09		
Sep	83,392.78	106,164.49	9,264.25	198,821.52	\$304,986.01	601,432.92	\$918,370.94
Oct				0.00	\$0.00		
Nov				0.00	\$0.00		
Dec				0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00
Total	752,759.94	906,084.57	79,524.90	1,738,369.41	\$2,644,453.98	1,738,369.41	\$2,644,453.98
Grand Ttl	752,760.09	906,084.57	79,524.90	1,738,369.56	\$2,644,454.13	1,738,369.56	\$2,644,454.13
% of Total	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3				
<i>tonnage</i>	43.30%	52.12%	4.57%				
<i>dollars</i>	28.47%	68.53%	3.01%				

Attachment C

2021 Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District

	Performance Measure		3rd Quarter Results		Year to Date Results	
Direct Service Programs						
Yard Trimmings Drop-off	Drop-off visits	24,500	Drop-off visits	4,419	Drop-off visits	8,302
	Tons diverted from landfill	3,000	Tons diverted from landfill	701	Tons diverted from landfill	1,348
Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Program	Households participating	1,600	Households participating	0	Households participating	0
Tire Clean-ups (KCB and OEPA grants)	Tires collected	5,000	Tires collected	537	Tires collected	5,668
	Participating communities	15	Participating communities	1	Participating communities	14
Event Recycling	Events using District containers	N/A	Events using District containers	10	Events using District containers	11
	Residents reached	N/A	Residents reached	10,700	Residents reached	20,700
Illegal Dumping Enforcement Program	Citations	70	Citations	22	Citations	59
	Cases Investigated	140	Cases Investigated	31	Cases Investigated	73
Compost Bin Sale 5/15/21	Bins sold	650	Bins sold	0	Bins sold	317
Grant Programs						
Residential Recycling Incentive Program	Provide funding to communities based on tons recycled.	N/A		0		
Waste Reduction Innovation Grant	Applications received	10	Applications received	0	Applications received	9
Smart Kitchen Initiative	Implement technology or technical assistance in commercial kitchen	5	Kitchens implemented	0	Kitchens implemented	0
Market Development Grants	Tons of manufacturing capacity added		Tons of manufacturing capacity added	0	Tons of manufacturing capacity added	0
	Applicants assisted	1	Applicants assisted	0	Applicants assisted	0
Community Development Grant	Applicants Assisted	1	Applicants assisted	0	Applicants assisted	1
Ohio EPA Recycling Partnership Grant	Households Reached	20,000	Households Reached	0	Households Reached	11,387
	Contamination Reduced	30%	Contamination Reduced	0	Contamination Reduced	0
Yard Trimmings Infrastructure Grant	Tons diverted	14	Tons diverted	0	Tons diverted	7
Technical Assistance						
Pollution Prevention Internships	Interns Placed	1	Interns Placed	0	Interns Placed	2
General Technical Assistance	Website inquiries	350	Website inquiries	70	Website inquiries	272
	Hotline calls received	4,500	Hotline calls received	1,159	Hotline calls received	3,255

2021 Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District

		3rd Quarter Results				
Let's Stop Waste	Facilities Assisted	100	Total Facilities Assisted	21	Total Facilities Assisted	56
	Schools	35	Schools	3	Schools	7
	Office/Retail/Institutions	75	Office/Retail/Institutions	18	Office/Retail/Institutions	43
	Bars/Restaurants	5	Bars/Restaurants	0	Bars/Restaurants	4
	Multi-Families	6	Multi-Families	0	Multi-Families	2
	People Reached	20,000	People Reached	1,515	People Reached	5,677
513Green Certification	Organizations Certified	10	Organizations Certified	2	Organizations Certified	5
Waste Audits	Organizations Audited	3	Organizations Audited	1	Organizations Audited	3
Small Scale Community Composting Training	Implement phase two and three of program	N/A		0		

Outreach and Awareness

Social Media	Social media followers	8,500	Social media followers	4,420	Social media followers	4,420
	Compost blog page views	77,200	Compost blog page views	14,843	Compost blog page views	42,431
Website (unique page views)	Overall visitors to website	250,000	Overall visitors to website	44,615	Overall visitors to website	146,073
	Recycling and Reuse Outlets	22,040	Recycling and Reuse Outlets	3,200	Recycling and Reuse Outlets	11,678
	HHW (D.O, Regular HHW page)	24,506	HHW (D.O, Regular HHW page)	3,495	HHW (D.O, Regular HHW page)	9,071
	TAKE Back Your Home	750	TAKE Back Your Home	136	TAKE Back Your Home	739
Residential Campaign Reduce/Reuse/Recycle	Develop behavior change marketing campaign		in progress	0		
Wasted Food Stops With Us Campaign	Develop behavior change marketing campaign		in progress	0		0
Public Events	People reached	N/A	People reached	136	People reached	296
	Events attended	N/A	Events attended	3	Events attended	5
School Based Programs	Assemblies and classroom	95	Assemblies and classroom	15	Assemblies and classroom	185
	Field trips	0	Field trips	0	Field trips	1
	School events	0	School Events	1	School Events	1
	Students and adults reached	2,100	Students and adults reached	961	Students and adults reached	4,328
Adult Seminars/Education	People reached	2,100	Residents reached	126	Residents reached	817
	Presentations	35	Presentations	4	Presentations	21

2021 Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District

		3rd Quarter Results		
Annual Awards Program	Implement awards program		0	
Community Outreach	Target communities assisted	2	Target communities assisted	1
	General community meetings	10	General community meetings	3
Information Emails	Residents opening email	32,000	Residents opening email	4,157
The R3Source Newsletter	Stakeholders reached	6,000	Residents opening email	1,469
Wasted Food Event	Attendees	NA	0	0

Data Management/Reporting

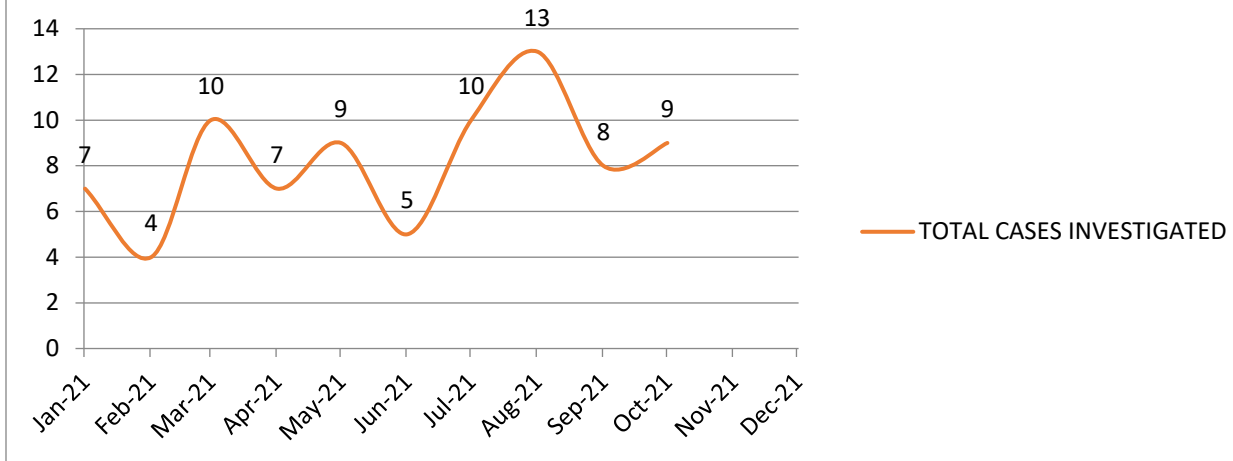
OEPA Annual District Report	Submit complete report to OEPA		no activity	0
	Conduct commercial recycling survey			0

Regional and State Leadership

OSWDO	Attend Quarterly Meetings	4	Meetings attended	3	Meetings attended	6
Regional Solid Waste Meetings	Meetings organized and attended	2	Meetings organized and attended	0	Meetings organized and attended	4

Attachment D

2021 Hamilton County Environmental Enforcement Activity



[2021 Complaints Received of Illegal Dumping \(click for interactive version\)](#)

