



R·R·R·A·S·O·C

2014 Annual Report

Member Communities

**Farmington
Farmington Hills
Novi
South Lyon
Southfield
Walled Lake
Wixom**

Board of Directors

Chairman

Anthony Nowicki, City Manager, Wixom

Vice Chairman

Fred Zorn, City Administrator, Southfield

Treasurer

Lisa McGill, DPW Coordinator, Walled Lake

Secretary

Steve Brock, City Manager, Farmington Hills

Vincent Pastue, City Manager, Farmington

Pete Auger, City Manager, Novi

Lynne Ladner, City Manager, South Lyon

L. Dennis Whitt, City Manager, Walled Lake

Designated Board Alternates

Gary Mekjian, Director, Farmington Hills Department of Public Works

Chuck Eudy, Director, Farmington Department of Public Services

Rob Hayes, Director, Novi Department of Public Services

RRRASOC Staff

Michael Csapo, General Manager

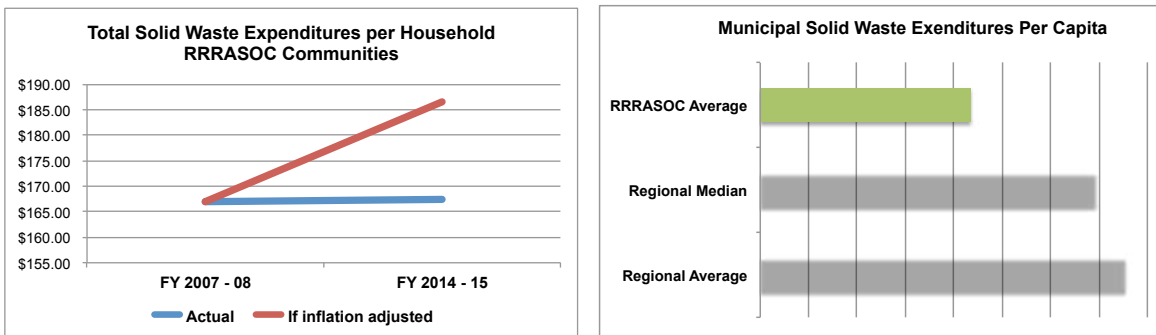
Laura Shaw, Administrative Secretary

Tracy Purrenhage, Contract Recycling Coordinator

New challenges, new programs, and new opportunities best characterize 2014. Last year, RRRASOC worked with its Member Communities and new private sector partners to improve upon service delivery, including curbside clothing collection, innovation in used pharmaceutical collection, additional electronic waste collection events, and improved outreach and education efforts.

RRRASOC and its processing partner, ReCommunity Recycling, also began the rebuilding process to recover from a fire at the materials recovery facility that occurred near mid-year. Both parties worked with their respective insurance carriers and experts in the field to identify a pathway to rebuild the facility in a way that is consistent with best practices, takes advantage of the latest technologies, and capitalizes on lessons learned.

During the year, RRRASOC evaluated solid waste expenditures in its Member Communities and those of thirty-four other communities in southeast Michigan. We found that expenditures in the RRRASOC communities were below the regional median and average, as well as more than 10% below inflationary adjustments.



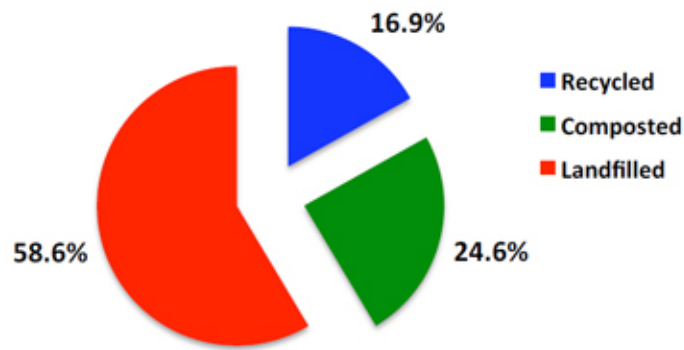
Nearly 27,815 tons of yard waste, recyclables, and household hazardous waste items were collected through the RRRASOC collection programs and diverted from local landfills. RRRASOC’s overall recycling rate was 41.5%, well above Michigan’s 14.5% and the national average of 34.5%. Recapturing those resources for value-added economic activity also yielded significant environmental benefits, including the following:

- Conserved more than 169 billion Btu, the equivalent of the annual energy consumption of more than 1,677 households;
- Preserved more than 126,828 trees;
- Reduced waterborne pollution emissions by 71 tons;
- Reduced airborne emissions by nearly 15,250 metric tons of carbon equivalent.

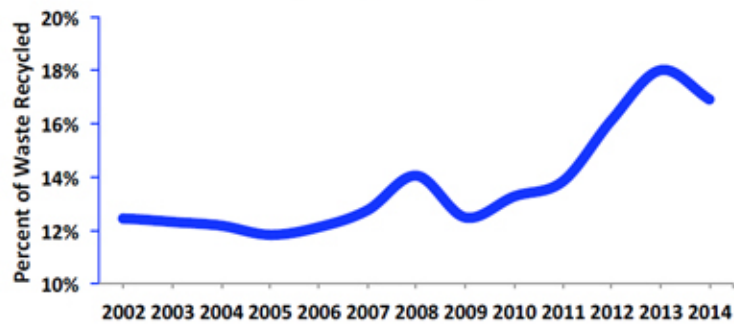
Among new programs in 2014 were the following:

- RRRASOC utilized funding from an MDEQ Pollution Prevention Grant to test onsite pharmaceutical collections for senior citizens in the cities of Wixom, Novi, and Southfield.
- The pilot curbside collection of clothing and household goods, in conjunction with Simple Recycling, began in South Lyon, Wixom, and Walled Lake.
- RRRASOC received funding from the Carton Council to promote carton recycling within our communities.
- RRRASOC developed a new, monthly electronic newsletter.

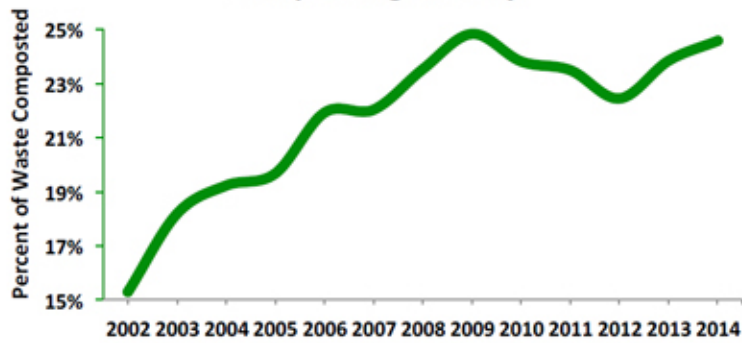
Solid Waste Disposition: 2014



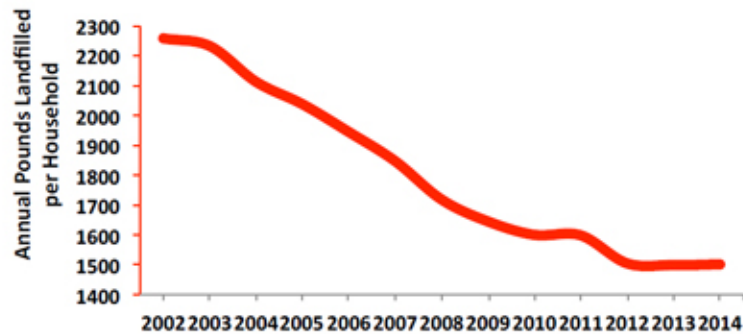
Recycling History



Composting History



Waste Generation History



In 2014, RRRASOC and its operating partner, ReCommunity Recycling, began the process of recovering from a devastating fire that occurred in May at the materials recovery facility (MRF) in Southfield. RRRASOC worked with ReCommunity Recycling, Waste Management, and Duncan Disposal to ensure that service delivery to our communities and residents remained unaffected by the incident. Material was delivered to alternate processing facilities while design work and repairs began.



Nearly 20,575 tons of material processed at the site were shipped throughout the U.S. and abroad. Paper materials continued to be the predominate commodity processed at the facility, with old newsprint constituting more than 56% of shipped material and cardboard was more than 14%. Containers and miscellaneous items (glass, metal, & plastic) contributed to the remainder of the material processed and shipped in 2014.

Curbside recycling from more than 52,350 RRRASOC area homes and material from the RRRASOC drop-off centers combined for nearly 11,104 tons of paper, glass, plastic, and metal from the RRRASOC communities that was processed at the RRRASOC MRF and other regional facilities in 2014.

Where Your Recycled Materials Go

After Michigan's recycled material is separated and baled at the local ReCommunity MRF, it is sent to a variety of reprocessing locations to be made into new products. See the map below for a sample list of commodities and common reprocessing locations.



RRRASOC's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection program experienced continued popularity in 2014. Overall, 5,348 residents took advantage of the opportunity to recycle and properly disposed of the hazardous material found in their homes, making it one of the highest years for participation in the program's history and 23% above the average for the previous ten years.

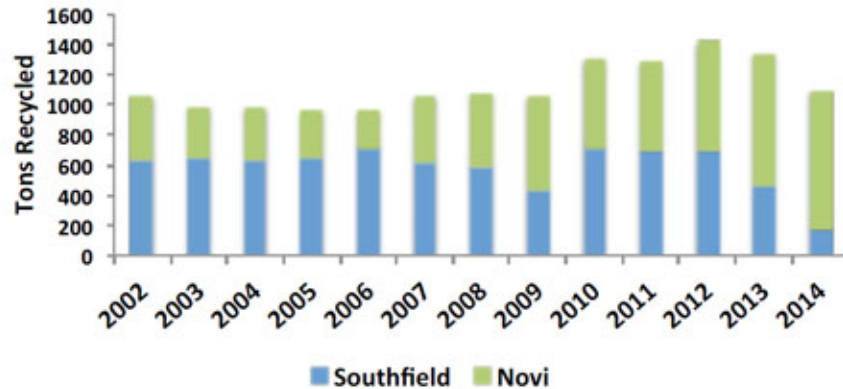
Nearly 282,000 pounds of material were collected in 2014. Used electronic equipment made up 56% of the material. Lead acid and dry cell batteries comprised nearly 8.5%. Herbicides, pesticides, and other toxic products constituted 8.25% of the collected material. Motor oil was 6.75% of the total, oil-based paint was more than 6%, and other flammable liquids accounted for 4%.

Environmental Recycling Group, Inc. (ERG), a local hazardous waste company, handled the material. Disposal and recycling costs through ERG continue to be the lowest in southeast Michigan. All material was handled in accordance with state and federal laws. ShredCorp also provided document shredding at each event.



RRRASOC's recycling drop-off centers, located in Southfield and Novi, continued to be popular recycling options. Both locations accept material that is processed at the MRF. Last year, nearly 1,102 tons were brought to these sites for recycling. The Southfield location closed after the fire, which caused an increase in collections in Novi, but an overall decrease in drop off activity. The Southfield location will reopen in 2015.

RRRASOC Recycling Drop Off Activity



Through a continued partnership with Vintage Tech Recycling, RRRASOC provided e-waste recycling drop-off services at the Southfield location and at the DPW in the City of Wixom. Three special electronic waste collection events were also held in Southfield and Novi to complement the drop-off sites and Vintage Tech's "At Your Door" service, which is available to residents of the RRRASOC cities. More than 100,000 pounds of e-waste were collected for recycling by VTR in 2014.



South Lyon, Wixom, and Walled Lake became the first communities in Michigan to pilot weekly curbside clothing collection through a new project with Simple Recycling. Designed to complement charitable giving by our homeowners, the new program offers an opportunity to ensure that household goods that might otherwise be landfilled are reused and recycled. Nearly 75,000 pounds were collected for reuse.



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**Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County
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