



ANNUAL REPORT | 2018

Dear Reader:

2017 was another excellent year for the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County. Our regional partnership continued to work thoughtfully and energetically to protect public health and the environment, and provide outstanding services to people who live and work in King County.

The 2017 Annual Report showcases our program's activities and accomplishments over the past year. Select highlights include:

- **Leading with Racial Justice.** Thoughtfully and appropriately designed, delivered, and evaluated services to the diverse residents and businesses in King County, including forming new partnerships with community groups.
- **Hazardous Waste Management.** Protected human health and the environment by properly managing 3,374,577 pounds of hazardous materials and wastes from households and businesses in King County.
- **Secure Medicine.** [REDACTED] m for unwanted household pharmaceuticals from manufacturers providing over 10 [REDACTED]
- **Collection Facility.** [REDACTED] n facility in Factoria, and con [REDACTED] outh King County.



We would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of program staff, along with our agency and community partners, in providing these services. Individuals involved in LHWMP's work are deeply committed to making a difference, and to ultimately improving public health and the environment across King County.

Sincerely,

Lynda Ransley
Program Director
Local Hazardous Waste
Management Program

Joan Lee
2017 Chair,
Management Coordination Committee
King County Department of
Natural Resource and Parks
Water & Land Resource Division

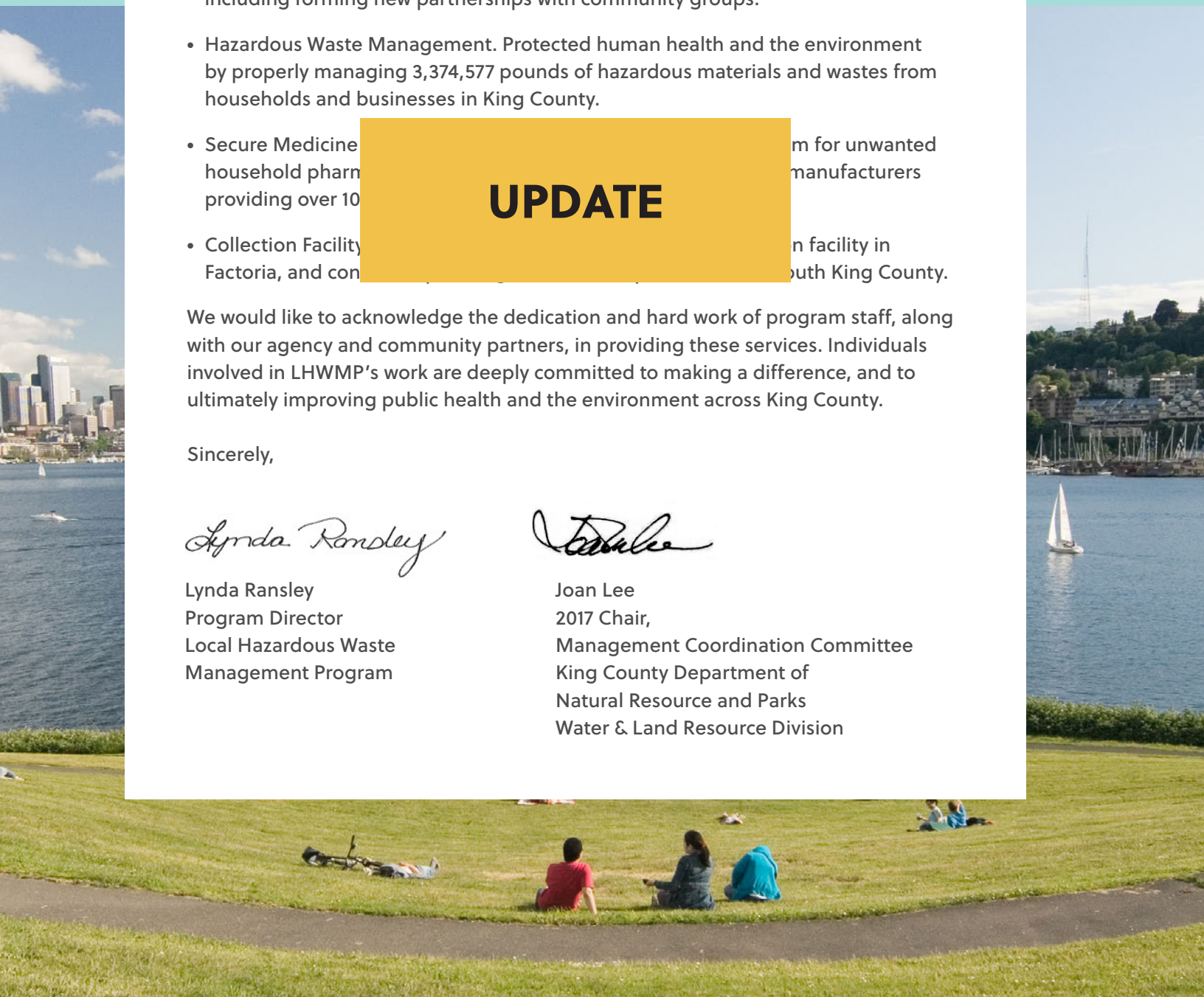


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The Hazardous Waste Management Program's Management Coordination Committee (MCC) oversees the regional and multi-jurisdictional partnership of our program.

2018 MCC MEMBERS

Darrell Rodgers, PhD, Chair
Public Health - Seattle & King County

Councilmember Hank Myers, Vice Chair
City of Redmond Council,
Sound Cities Association

Susan Fife-Ferris
Seattle Public Utilities

Jeff Gaisford
King County Solid Waste Division

Joan Lee
King County Water and Land Resources Division

Lynda Ransley
Director, Hazardous Waste Management Program
Seattle Public Utilities

OUR PROGRAM PARTNERS

Hazardous Waste Management Program is a regional partnership for all jurisdictions in King County, which includes 38 cities, two tribes, and unincorporated areas.

King County Solid Waste Division

King County Water and Land Resources Division

Public Health - Seattle & King County

Seattle Public Utilities

Sound Cities Association

INTRODUCTION

THE HAZARDOUS WASTE PROBLEM

Many products that we use every day – including cleaning supplies, varnish, motor oil, oil-based paints, and pesticides – contain ingredients that are toxic, corrosive, flammable, or reactive. These products are considered “hazardous” because they can threaten the environment and human health.

Though the amount of hazardous waste coming from a single house or business may be small, the total amount from 2.1 million residents and more than 60,000 small businesses in King County threatens public health and the environment. Exposure to some hazardous products presents a risk even when they are used and disposed of properly.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets stringent regulations for hazardous waste generated by manufacturers. It does not regulate similar wastes that are generated by small businesses or used in the home. This is left up to local jurisdictions to manage.

OUR REGIONAL RESPONSE

Washington State directed local governments to ensure proper management of hazardous waste products. As a result, local agencies and governments established the Hazardous Waste Management Program to manage these wastes in King County.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to protect and enhance public health and environmental quality in King County by reducing the threat posed by the production, use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials.

OUR VISION

Our vision is that the Puget Sound region is the cleanest in the country – one free of hazardous chemical exposure.

HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

COLLECTION

We provide convenient hazardous waste collection services for residents and businesses in King County. We operate four fixed collection sites, mobile collection events, and in-home collection services for seniors and residents with disabilities.



PREVENTION

We offer education, outreach, technical assistance, and financial incentives to reduce exposures to toxic materials where people live and work. We use a research-based, community-centered approach to encourage the use of less toxic products and to help residents and businesses manage their hazardous materials safely.



POLICY

We promote systematic changes in the production, use, and disposal of hazardous materials to help ensure that chemicals and products are safe for people and the environment. We work to create change through policy and product stewardship initiatives.



COLLECTION

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT FROM HAZARDOUS WASTE

Hazardous products damage our publically-funded solid waste and wastewater systems when they are put in the garbage or poured down sinks or storm drains. Ultimately, they can enter our groundwater and contaminate Puget Sound, rivers, and lakes.

Our goal is to protect our waste systems and the environment by providing ratepayers with convenient ways to safely get rid of their hazardous waste.

We operate three fixed facilities, a Wastemobile collection event held every weekend at the Auburn Supermall, and Wastemobile collection events in communities throughout King County. We also provide in-home collection for seniors and residents with disabilities. We do not charge a collection fee because our services are largely funded by ratepayers in King County.

In 2018, our collection services kept more than

3,193,040 pounds

of hazardous waste out of our waste systems and the environment.



59,794

visits by residents



1,093

visits by small businesses



91

home collection visits for seniors and residents with disabilities

PILOT PROJECT FOR ON-SITE COLLECTION SERVICES

Hazardous Waste Management Program is dedicated to making collection services more equitable and accessible to people living in King County. In 2018, we launched a pilot project to collect batteries and light bulbs at two YWCA and three King County Housing Authority properties. Over 400 pounds of batteries and 306 pounds of compact fluorescent light bulbs were collected on-site. On-site collection events will be expanded to additional King County Housing Authority properties in 2019.

SMARTER SORTING TO ALLOW FOR PRODUCT REUSE

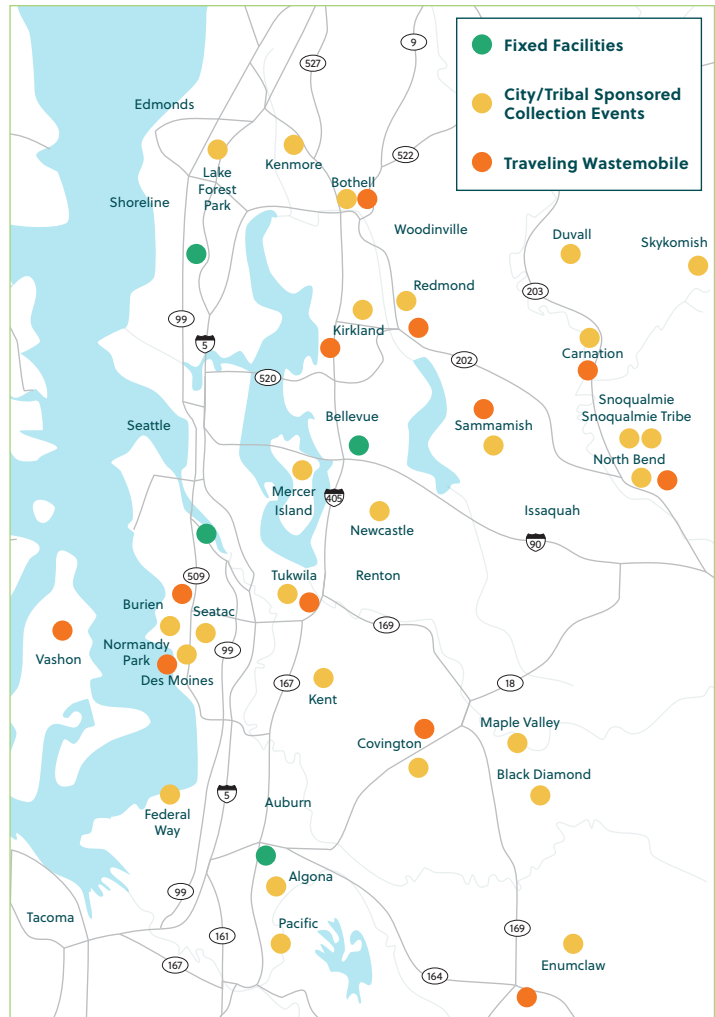
In 2018, the collection facility in Factoria partnered with Smarter Sorting, a company that uses barcode scanning technology to help staff identify household hazardous waste products. After identifying products, staff divert reusable materials—like automotive products and low-toxicity cleaners—to Habitat for Humanity reuse stores. A total of 31,138 pounds of reusable products were sent to Habitat for Humanity, allowing low and moderate income residents to purchase products at significant discounts from retail prices.

INCREASING COLLECTION OPPORTUNITIES AND EDUCATION THROUGH CITY AND TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS

Hazardous Waste Management Program provides financial grants serving 36 cities and one tribe to help more residents safely manage their hazardous materials. Grants are combined with other funding sources to support education and collection events for limited types of hazardous waste and recyclable solid wastes. These city and tribal-hosted collection events make safe hazardous waste disposal more convenient for people living throughout King County.

In 2018, the cities of Auburn, Bellevue, Bothell, Federal Way, Issaquah, Lake Forest Park, North Bend, and Shoreline provided hazardous waste education activities for their residents. Activities included workshops and outreach on hazardous waste disposal locations and safer alternatives through newsletters, billing inserts, direct mail, television, and social media.

2018 COLLECTION SITES



\$490,187

provided to city and tribal partners



47

city/tribal-sponsored collection events



31,261

residents and businesses attended the city/tribal-sponsored events



207,920 lbs.

of hazardous waste collected

Some city data is not submitted at the time annual reports are published. Customer counts and volume data includes what was received by the date of publication, plus any unreported data from the previous year.

PREVENTION *AT WORK*

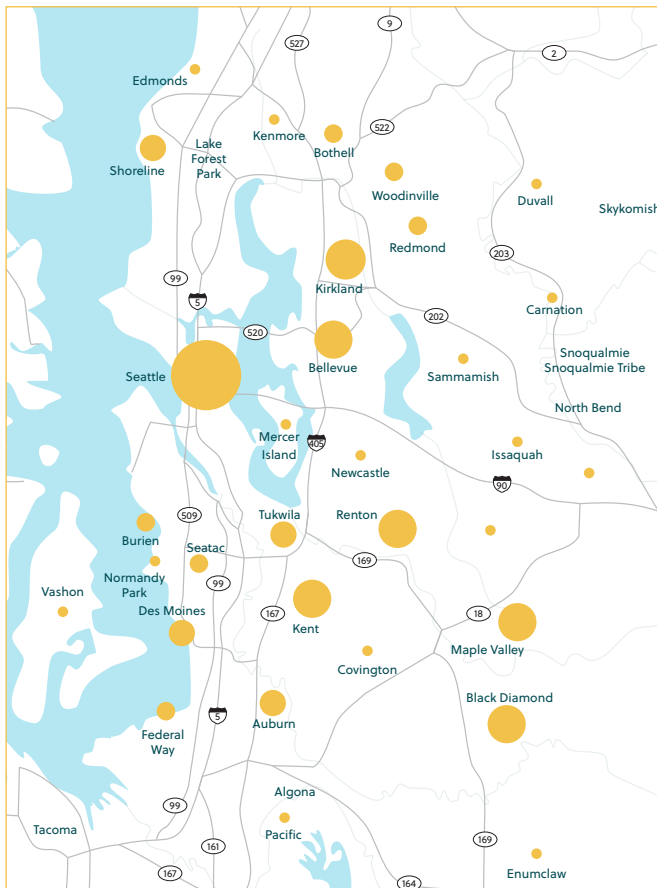
REDUCING EXPOSURE TO TOXIC MATERIALS AT WORK

Most businesses generate some type of hazardous waste that they must properly manage. We believe the best way to deal with hazardous waste is not to produce it—or to produce less of it.

Our goal is to reduce the risk of acute and chronic chemical exposures by providing equitable services to help businesses safely manage hazardous materials and make safer product choices.

We provide on-site consultations, phone advice, and trainings for businesses. Our field staff help businesses safely manage hazardous materials, find safer products, comply with regulatory requirements, and reduce waste. We also offer recognition through EnviroStars to help businesses make improvements that protect workers and the environment.

2018 BUSINESS VISITS



In 2018, we provided
516 on-site consultations
to 392 small businesses
in King County



396,755 lbs.
of hazardous materials moved
to proper storage or disposal



693 people
attended 13 educational events



125 King County businesses
certified by Envirostars,
in recognition of their
green business practices

CASH-BACK PROGRAMS FOR BUSINESSES THAT MAKE IMPROVEMENTS

Hazardous Waste Management Program offers up to \$599 in reimbursements to businesses that make changes to protect workers or the environment from hazardous product use, storage, or disposal. By making a one-time financial investment, we help create lasting change.



126
businesses received
reimbursements



\$546,579
total cost of
improvements



\$235,996
reimbursements by
Hazardous Waste
Management Program



200% return
For every \$1 we spent,
small businesses invested \$2

HELPING BUSINESSES SWITCH TO SAFER PRODUCT ALTERNATIVES

AUTO BODY REPAIR SHOPS

In 2018, Hazardous Waste Management Program partnered with paint industry representatives to help auto body repair shops switch to using waterborne paints. Waterborne paints contain lower quantities of volatile organic compounds, which contribute to poor air quality and can harm workers' health. We offered technical assistance and grants up to \$20,000 to help shops switch to safer paints. In 2018, six shops requested to participate in the program and two shops completed their conversion to waterborne paints.

DRY CLEANING SHOPS

Hazardous Waste Management Program is working with local dry cleaners to eliminate the use of perchloroethylene (also known as PERC) in King County by 2025. We are providing financial and technical assistance to help dry cleaners switch from using PERC to professional wet cleaning, which uses water instead of a cancer-causing solvent.

In 2018, Hazardous Waste Management Program awarded seven \$20,000 grants to help dry cleaners switch from using PERC to professional wet cleaning. We will offer up to ten \$20,000 grants per year until all dry cleaners in King County have switched from PERC to safer alternatives.

In King County, most dry cleaning business owners are first-generation immigrants from South Korea. Many employees are Latino/Latinx. This effort is a positive step in helping eliminate dangerous chemical exposures that disproportionately impact people of color, neighboring communities, and the environment.



PREVENTION *AT HOME*

PREVENTING EXPOSURE TO TOXIC MATERIALS AT HOME

We aim to prevent toxic exposures by increasing awareness of hazardous products and providing equitable services and resources that encourage safer purchasing choices and behaviors.

We use a research-based, customer-centered approach to inform our planning, investments, and services. Program planning incorporates knowledge about the needs, barriers, and practices of our ratepayers as well as technical and scientific data.

PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR RESIDENTS

Hazardous Waste Management Program provides phone consultations, education, and outreach to help residents safely manage the toxic materials that are present in most homes.

The hazardous waste call center connects residents to an expert who can answer their questions about product disposal and safer alternatives. We also host English as a Second Language (ESL) educational workshops to teach attendees practical information about household hazardous products.

Hazardous Waste Management Program also partners with Seattle Public Utilities to fund the Garden Hotline. The Garden Hotline provides phone and email advice on how to use less toxic chemicals for lawn and garden care. The Garden Hotline also presents at classes and events, prioritizing service delivery to underserved populations and King County residents living outside Seattle.



6003 people
reached by the
Garden Hotline



3,634 calls
received by the
hazardous waste
customer service line



19 workshops
with ESL classes
that represented
22 languages

REDUCING EXPOSURES TO LEAD

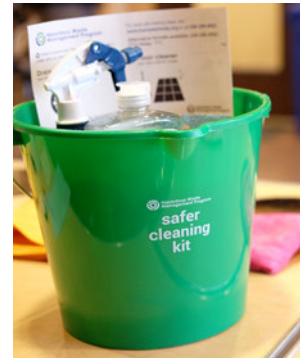
Lead is banned in common products, like paint and most gasolines, but lead poisoning is a problem that impacts thousands of people in the United States each year. We work with the Washington State Department of Health to investigate and manage cases of King County children under 14 years with elevated levels of lead in their blood. We help families identify potential sources of lead in their homes and, together with the child's caregiver, we develop a plan of action with recommendations to reduce the child's lead exposure.

This year, Hazardous Waste Management Program established partnerships with Community Health Services and Refugee Clinics to increase the number of families receiving culturally-appropriate services. Refugee Clinics provide healthcare support as well as nutritional and development assessments, while we provide case management, environmental assessments, and exposure reduction plans.

ENCOURAGING SAFER CLEANING PRACTICES

Hazardous Waste Management Program is working to reduce the number of exposures to cleaning products in King County. Using an equity process that considered reach and impact, we selected the Spanish-speaking immigrant population as our priority audience.

In 2018, we worked with Sea Mar, a community-based organization with deep ties to the Latino/Latinx community, to conduct 49 in-home inventories of chemical cleaning products and practices. We also used surveys and community conversations with 177 community members to develop outreach materials and cleaning kits that encourage safer cleaning behaviors.



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP: LATINO AMBASSADOR PROJECT



The Latino Ambassador Project is led by a group of community partners who have a passion for learning and sharing information that keeps families healthy. This project's uses a community-centered decision making model that embodies King County and Hazardous Waste Management Program cultural competency principles. Through partnerships like this one, we create pathways for community involvement in decision making that informs future policies, services, outreach, and practices.

In 2018, the ambassadors planned and facilitated an educational workshop for 51 guests from the Latino community. The ambassadors presented information about safer cleaning practices and shared stories about how they changed their own behaviors around toxic product use. They also hosted an exercise to teach attendees how to identify hazardous products and compare prices of toxic products and safer alternatives. In 2019, the ambassadors and project team will develop a Spanish-language outreach and education campaign to promote safer cleaning practices in the Latino community in King County.

POLICY

WORKING UPSTREAM

Hazardous Waste Management Program works to improve policies and regulations that impact the creation, use, and end-of-life management of hazardous products. We work with partners at many levels of government. We also partner with other local, regional, and national groups to achieve change.

OUR STATEWIDE POLICY EFFORTS

In 2018, Hazardous Waste Management continued to work on three statewide policy efforts:

The Paint Stewardship Bill (HB 1652) would create a statewide, producer-funded product stewardship program for waste paint. Program staff served as chair of the Northwest Product Stewardship Council subcommittee on paint. We also met with the bill sponsor and helped coordinate testimony for the Legislative Committee hearings. The bill is currently active in the 2019 legislative session.

The Preventing Toxic Pollution Bill (SB 5135 and companion bill 1194) would require the Department of Ecology, in consultation with the Department of Health, to identify and make regulatory decisions about priority chemicals and consumer products. Hazardous Waste Management Program staff collaborated with Toxic-Free Future in its drafting of this new bill and testified on the bill's behalf.

The Chemical Action Plan for Per- and Poly-Fluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS) will identify the potential health and environmental impacts of PFAS and recommend strategies to reduce or eliminate them. This effort is led by the Washington State Department of Ecology; Hazardous Waste Management Program participates on the advisory committee. This year, we participated in efforts to evaluate safer alternatives to firefighting foams and food contact paper, two common sources of PFAS. We are actively monitoring revisions to the Chemical Action Plan and Alternatives Assessments which are expected to be completed in mid-2019.

SAFER ALTERNATIVES STRATEGY RESOLUTION

On April 19, 2018, the King County Board of Health unanimously passed the Safer Alternatives Resolution (Resolution No. 18-07). The resolution supports Hazardous Waste Management Program's work to prioritize chemicals of concern, identify safer alternatives, and help businesses and residents make safer chemical choices. The Board of Health was supportive of the program's leadership and impact in reducing exposures to toxic chemicals. The program was also recognized for applying a racial equity lens to this initiative.

DEVELOPING POLICY OPTIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Hazardous Waste Management Program is establishing partnerships that support inclusive planning and development of our policy work. In 2018, we worked directly with residents and business owners in White Center to determine how we can create more effective policies and provide better services to the diverse and unincorporated community. In November 2018, Hazardous Waste Management Program co-hosted the White Center Community Summit with the White Center Community Development Association. The event was an important opportunity to connect directly with ratepayers to learn about issues affecting White Center. Community perspectives help ensure that our policy efforts are relevant and equitable.

POLICY UPDATE

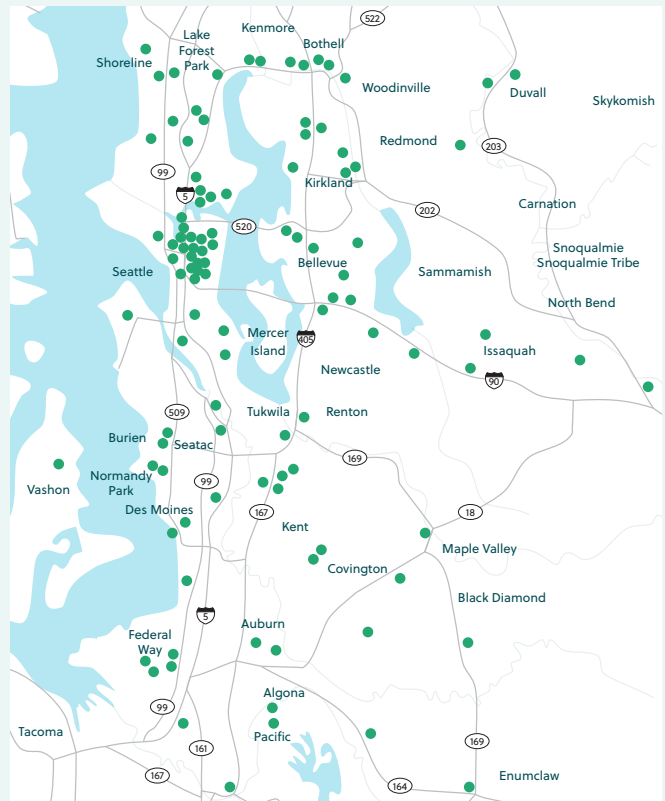
SECURE MEDICINE RETURN PROGRAM

King County's Secure Medicine Return Program is a safe and environmentally protective way to dispose of expired or unwanted over-the-counter and prescription medications. Drug take-back programs are an important effort in protecting kids, families, and communities from preventable poisonings, drug abuse, and overdose.

Drug producers fund and operate this product stewardship program, as required under King County Board of Health rule and regulations adopted in 2013. There is no cost to residents to use this service.

Collection locations are conveniently and equitably located throughout the King County at pharmacies and law enforcement offices.


The number of collections has increased since the program's launch in 2017. Residents became more aware of the program in 2018 through television broadcast of public service announcements, advertising on buses, and other outreach and education.

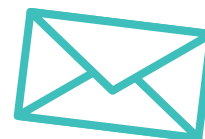



39,137 LBS.
of medicine collected


110
drop
boxes


504
drug companies
funding the
program


44 mail-back envelopes collected
from residents with limited mobility



LOOKING FORWARD

We are proud of our contributions to protecting human health and the environment in King County over the past 28 years. However, toxic material exposure is a significant problem that continues to impact our communities. Collection services provide a critically important way for ratepayers to safely dispose of hazardous wastes. It is also clear that the best way to reduce hazardous waste is not to produce it at all. In 2019, we will continue to increase our focus on prevention, sustainable system changes, and providing equitable services and education to King County ratepayers.

KEY ACTIONS FOR 2019

LEADING WITH RACIAL JUSTICE

Hazardous Waste Management Program is deeply committed to serving all people who live and work in King County. As a program, we have committed to leading with racial justice to confront the disparities that continue to exist in our communities. We know that race can be a determinate of hazardous materials exposure. By leading with racial justice, we can address the root causes of inequities and focus on areas where we can have the greatest impact.

We are committed to putting this approach into action. This year, Hazardous Waste Management Program adopted a Racial Equity Strategic Plan to set a path forward to improve our policies, practices, and service delivery for the next five years. We also completed a Racial Equity Implementation Plan, which will operationalize this work over the next three years. Staff continue to receive trainings to increase their knowledge and capacity to advance racial equity priorities in their work.

SAFER ALTERNATIVES TO HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

Identifying safer alternatives to hazardous chemicals and helping businesses and residents make the switch is an important part of Hazardous Waste Management Program's work. After passage of the Safer Alternative Resolution, a staff team formed to assess the current state of our safer alternatives work and make recommendations for a cohesive program-wide strategy. That strategy will be implemented in 2019 and beyond. We will increase adoption of safer alternatives by King County residents and businesses, create a uniform system for the program to identify safer alternatives, promote interagency partnerships and systems change, and ensure that this work is developed and executed through a racial equity lens

IMAGINING HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IN 2030

Beginning in 2019, Hazardous Waste Management Program will begin work on its 2020 Comprehensive Plan, with guidance from the Washington State Department of Ecology, King County Board of Health, and our ratepayers. This plan decides sets a strategic path forward on issues such determining what services we provide, how we make investments, and what policies will most effectively manage hazardous materials in King County.

The plan will address a period of 10 years into the future and envision Hazardous Waste Management Program in 2030. As King County prepares to add more people, jobs, and industries in the coming decade, the 2020 Comprehensive Plan will provide a guide for sustaining healthy people and a healthy environment free from harmful exposures to hazardous materials.

FINANCIALS

Hazardous Waste Management Program received \$15,893,971 in revenue during 2018, primarily from fees on solid waste and sewer services. These fees, which apply throughout King County, are authorized by the King County Board of Health under King County Board of Health Code 11.04.060. Fees are collected by public and private utility providers (i.e., solid waste haulers, wastewater treatment plant operators, transfer station operators, and cities), which in turn pay them into the program.

	2018 BUDGET	2018 ACTUAL
REVENUES		
Wastewater Rate Revenue	\$3,406,272	\$3,457,319
Transfer Station Rate Revenue	\$2,857,567	\$2,528,995
Solid Waste Account Revenue	\$9,881,771	\$9,593,406
Interest Income	\$146,115	\$314,252
TOTAL REVENUES	\$16,291,725	\$15,893,971
EXPENDITURES		
Seattle Public Utilities	\$3,810,208	\$3,792,926
King County DNRP, Solid Waste	\$4,400,695	\$3,578,070
King County DNRP, Water & Land	\$7,308,749	\$6,067,870
Public Health – Seattle & King Co.	\$4,390,242	\$3,208,906
City and Tribal Contracts	\$520,033	\$490,186
City and Tribal Event Inspections	\$23,734	\$23,734
Disaster Debris Contingency	\$25,000	\$0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$20,478,661	\$17,161,692



GOVERNMENTS WORKING TOGETHER FOR A HEALTHIER AND CLEANER KING COUNTY



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