

Residential Recycling Incentive (RRI)

The Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District provides recycling and waste reduction assistance to residents, communities, schools and businesses in Hamilton County, Ohio.

How does the RRI Program Work?

The budget for the RRI program ranges between \$700,000 and \$900,000 depending on revenue. These funds are split among Hamilton County communities.

The District calculates community funding based on tonnage reported and diversion rate. The diversion rate equals the tons of materials recycled divided by the total amount of material collected.

$$\text{Diversion Rate} = \frac{\text{Tons Recycled and Composted}}{\text{Total Waste Generated}}$$

The following table lists the seven tiers and the amount per ton each tier receives based on their diversion rate. As a community increases their diversion rate and moves into a higher tier, the community receives more RRI dollars per ton. The monetary amounts attached to these levels alter from year to year depending upon the total quantity of materials collected within the District.

Recycling Rate	Approximate RRI Dollars per Ton
> 30%	\$34
25% - 29.99%	\$30
20% - 24.99%	\$26
15% - 19.99%	\$22
10% - 14.99%	\$18
5% - 9.99%	\$14
0% - 4.99%	\$10

What Expenses Can RRI Funds Cover?

The District encourages communities with diversion rates lower than 20% to use funds to increase their recycling rate and finance their recycling program.

Acceptable expenses include:

- Solid waste education, awareness, and promotion
- Contracts for residential recycling efforts
- Publicly-operated drop-off, curbside, and buy-back programs
- Yard trimmings management programs
- Labor, equipment, and materials to support recycling programs
- Waste reduction activities

Communities with recycling rates over 20% can spend RRI funds on any of the items listed above. In addition, they are able to spend funds on recycled content purchases, such as recycled plastic playground equipment or recycled content office paper. Communities with a lower than 20% rate must receive approval from the District before making recycled content purchases with RRI funds.

What Materials Qualify?

All traditional materials collected in a curbside bin or a recycling drop-off count toward the RRI Program. Materials collected during community clean-up days or at special events open to all residents qualify, as well.

In 2018 residential yard trimmings that are composted or mulched begin qualifying for the RRI program. Material collected from community-owned property also does not qualify (such as, batteries from government vehicles).

For More Information

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