



**IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY**

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Environmental Tips for Local Governments

For Your Community

- Initiate a “pay as you throw” program charging residents for trash disposal based on the amount they throw away, to provide an incentive to minimize waste.
- Implement a curbside recycling program.
- Establish a community wide composting program.
- Establish a residential household hazardous waste program to divert hazardous materials from the landfill.
- Purchase recycled products for city improvements such as benches made of recycled plastic for city parks.
- Explore renewable energy options for city power needs.
- Promote alternative transportation through incentives to residents and businesses such as reduced fare annual bus passes.
- Design alternative transportation into city expansion and development. Include bike-paths, walkways and commuter to bus parking areas to encourage residents to use alternative transportation.
- Convert bus or van fleets to alternative fuels such as natural gas.
- Establish a maintenance schedule for city vehicle fleets to promote efficiency and minimize air pollution and waste.
- Establish a city outreach program to educate your citizens about recycling, water and energy use in the community and to encourage involvement.

Government Buildings

- Set the example; promote recycling of office paper, cans, cardboard, newspapers and other materials in government buildings.
- Initiate a green purchasing program to encourage purchase of recycled and environmentally friendly products. Adjust procurement plans to allow competitive bids to reflect the environmental qualities of the product. For example, the State of Idaho allows a price adjustment for recycled paper purchases to encourage state agencies to buy recycled products.
- Promote energy conservation. See Energy Tips for Local Governments to find out how.

For More Information

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

www.epa.gov

EPA’s Environmental Preferable Purchasing Program

www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp

Dept. of Energy’s Clean Cities Program

www.ccities.doe.gov

Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center

www.pprc.org

Idaho Department of Water Resources

www.idwr.idaho.gov

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

www.deq.state.id.us