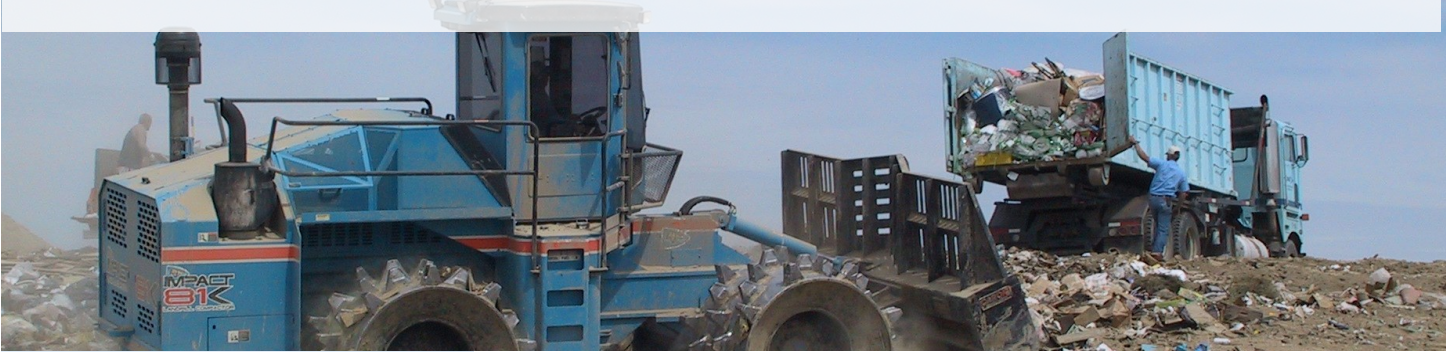


# IMPACT OF CUTS TO LOCAL SOLID WASTE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



## DECLINING FUNDING FOR MANAGING WASTE

The Governor's proposed 2017-19 budget for Coordinated Prevention Grants, which support local solid waste programs, permitting and enforcement, was \$10 million. Because the Legislature has not agreed on a capital budget, however, there is currently no funding available for these grants.

The \$10 million is itself a reduction from the \$15 million appropriated in 2015-17, and \$28.2 million in 2013-15.

The declining funding stems from low oil prices reducing collections for the Hazardous Substance Tax, which traditionally funded CPG (funding for the CPG program was switched to the State Building Construction Account in 2015-17 due to these tax shortfalls).

Counties and local health departments contribute a 25 percent match along with the state funding.

## Lack of capital budget affects county solid waste and recycling programs, local health departments

Washington State provides financial assistance to local governments to help them properly manage solid waste, improve recycling, enforce solid waste laws, and safely manage household hazardous waste.

This funding, which is directed through the Coordinated Prevention Grant program (CPG), comes from the state's capital budget. However, because the Legislature was unable to reach an agreement on the capital budget during its 2017 session, it means that no funding for Coordinated Prevention Grants is available for the 2017-19 biennium. This could change if the Legislature at some point passes a capital budget.

CPG funding is essential for inspection of Washington's 803 solid waste facilities—everything from landfills and leachate lagoons to composting and recycling facilities. In most Washington counties, CPG funding provides about a third of total funding for local recycling and hazardous waste programs.

Without this funding, many Washington counties and health departments will cut back or eliminate programs such as inspection and permitting work; household hazardous waste collection; and local recycling programs.

In the 2013-15 biennium, local health officials conducted approximately 5,646 facility inspections statewide. Local health officials also responded to 9,063 illegal dumping and illegal waste storage complaints, and provided technical assistance on waste handling and disposal to more than 29,142 residents and businesses.

## CONTACT

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## CPG BY THE NUMBERS

**8,200** —tons of hazardous materials recycled through CPG-funded programs

**9,063**—illegal dumping and waste complaints investigated

**29,142**—residents and business provided assistance on waste handling

**118,928**—tons of yard and food waste turned into compost

**1.4 million**—tons of material recycled

## Special accommodations

To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6900 or visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/accessibility.html>. Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

## What is being cut

Of the 39 counties in Washington, about half have indicated to Ecology that they plan to reduce services due to the CPG cuts. Many of the other counties and health departments are still evaluating the impact of the cuts and the best ways to manage the shortfalls.



Some examples of these service reductions are:

- Closing household hazardous waste dropoff sites for paint, oil, solvents and other toxics, or cutting collection events
- Reducing recycling services
- Eliminating response to solid waste complaints such as illegal dumping
- Eliminating inspections of solid waste handling facilities, such as transfer stations

