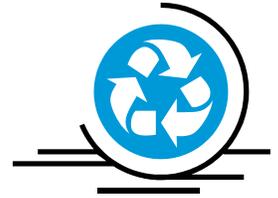


Solid Waste Management Advisory Council

House Bill 592 (HB 592), signed into law on June 24, 1988, dramatically revised Ohio's outdated solid waste regulatory program. The law also established a solid waste management planning program to be implemented at both the state and local government levels. The bill emphasized the need to reduce Ohio's reliance on landfills for the disposal of waste by increasing solid waste reuse, recycling and minimization efforts. This fact sheet is one in a series explaining the provisions of HB 592 that make up Ohio's solid waste management planning program.



Applicable Law

Ohio Revised Code Section 3734.51.

What is SWAC?

The Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC) is an advisory body that serves three functions:

- assists Ohio EPA with preparing the state solid waste management plan (state plan);
- approves or disapproves the draft plan; and
- annually reviews implementation of the state plan.

SWAC members represent various parties that are involved in or have an interest in solid waste management in Ohio. In this way, SWAC provides Ohio EPA with well-balanced input for developing the state plan.

Who serves on the council?

As required by the solid waste law, SWAC consists of the following nineteen members:

- the director of the Ohio EPA;
- the director of the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD);
- the director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR);
- a member of the Ohio Senate;
- a member of the Ohio House of Representatives;
- a representative from a health district (the representative must be involved in enforcement of the solid waste statute and regulations);
- two members representing counties;
- two members representing municipal corporations;
- two members representing townships;
- a member representing single county solid waste management districts;
- a member representing joint solid waste management districts;

- a member representing industrial generators of solid wastes;
- a member representing the private recycling industry;
- a member representing the private solid waste management industry;
- a member representing statewide environmental advocacy organizations; and,
- a member representing the public.

The statute requires the director of Ohio EPA to serve as the chairperson of SWAC. Other SWAC members serve as vice-chairperson and secretary.

How are members assigned?

The directors of Ohio EPA, ODNR and ODOD are automatic members of SWAC (ex-officio members). The member representing the Ohio Senate is appointed by the president of the Senate, and the member of the Ohio House of Representatives is appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

The directors of Ohio EPA, ODOD and ODNR typically authorize representatives from their respective agencies as their delegates for SWAC. The remaining 14 positions are appointed by the governor of Ohio. Ohio EPA, on behalf of the governor's office, solicits nominations for an appointed member from the trade association or other organization that represents the interests of the position being filled.

How long does a member serve?

The 14 members that are appointed by the governor have term limits. For those members, the appointments expire every two years on a staggered schedule. Thus, seven appointments expire each calendar year. At the end of a member's two year term, the governor can either reappoint that member or appoint a new member.

Solid Waste Management Advisory Council

The ex officio members (and their delegates), the senator, and the representative retain their positions on SWAC until the members either leave their positions in their respective organizations or a new delegate is assigned.

How often does the council meet?

SWAC must meet four times a year, once every quarter. Meetings are scheduled based on a calendar year. Although rare, the director of Ohio EPA can require SWAC to meet more often if necessary.

Can I attend council meetings?

SWAC meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in attending SWAC meetings is encouraged to do so. The solid waste management clearinghouse Web site, maintained by Ohio EPA's Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, contains information such as meeting schedule, a list of current members, the agenda and location for the upcoming meeting and the minutes from previous meetings. To view the site, go to www.epa.ohio.gov/dsiwm/pages/swmdc.aspx.

Related Documents

The Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM) developed a series of fact sheets describing the requirements from HB 592 that apply to Ohio's solid waste management planning program. The document numbers and titles of other available fact sheets are:

- 0196 — *House Bill 592*
- 0594 — *Ratification of Solid Waste Management District Disposal and Generation Fees*
- 0633 — *Local Solid Waste Management Planning Process*
- 0655 — *Ratification of Solid Waste Management District Solid Waste Management Plans*
- 0659 — *State Solid Waste Management Plan*
- 1004 — *Local Solid Waste Management Plans*
- 1005 — *Solid Waste Management Districts*

The documents listed above and the current state plan can all be found on the SWMD/Planning Page on DSIWM's Web site.

Interested parties can also contact DSIWM to obtain hard copies of the fact sheets and the current state plan.

For More Information

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(614) 644-2621 (phone)
(877) 372-2621 (toll free)
(614) 728-5315 (fax)
www.epa.ohio.gov/dsiwm/

For more information about the planning process and solid waste management in your area, contact your local SWMD. To determine what SWMD you live in, use the *Map of Ohio's Solid Waste Management Districts* that is available on the SWMD/Planning Page on DSIWM's Web site.

To contact your SWMD, call or e-mail the coordinator listed on the *SWMD Coordinators and Policy Committee Chairpersons List* that is available on the SWMD/Planning Page on DSIWM's Web site. You can also contact DSIWM to get information about your SWMD.