

Grant Category:

Select which Grant you are applying to:

Recycling Infrastructure

The Recycling Infrastructure Grants are designed to increase the statewide recycling rate, with the goal of achieving a 45 percent statewide recycling rate by 2025. Additionally, the Recycling Infrastructure Grants work to increase collection and processing capacity of recyclable materials or food waste and increase access and participation rates in recycling or food waste composting programs while promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion across Michigan, and they will support Governor Whitmer's climate change priorities through measurable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Grant Recipient and Fiduciary Information:

The primary contact selected for this application should be the individual responsible for executing a grant contract. If the fiduciary is different than the primary contact the fiduciary information must be provided in addition to a letter of support. Double check your profile information if you plan to use that for your primary contact information.

Primary Contact

Return to the main portal page to double check your profile information.

Same as Profile

Is the fiduciary a separate entity than the grant applicant?

Yes, the fiduciary is a separate entity than the grant applicant contact information provided.

Fiduciary Contact: First Name

Patrick

Fiduciary Contact: Last Name

Jordan

Fiduciary Contact: Email

pjordan@ioniacounty.org

Fiduciary Contact: Phone

(616) 527-5300

Fiduciary Contact: Address

101 W. Main St.

City

Ionia

State

US-MI

Zip

48846

Please upload a letter of support from the fiduciary entity.

[County Ionia Support.pdf](#)

Please self-identify your organization type:

Public Sector

Project Information:

Project Title

Ionía Recycling Project

Brief Project Description

NOTE: This concise description will be used in reports and other documentation.

The Ionía Recycling Project will bring the County of Ionía into compliance with the recycling benchmark standards detailed by EGLE in the updated Solid Waste Legislative Part 115. Currently, curbside recycling is offered in the cities of Ionía and Belding, which leaves nearly 19,000 households without recycling service access. This project will place four state-of-the-art recycling drop-off collection sites in each quadrant of Ionía County, all within 10 miles of any resident, providing equitable access for the low-income and underserved rural residents. Each site will be hosted on municipal property to promote compliance and limit illegal dumping and contamination.

What is the primary focus of your project? (select all that apply)

Drop off site construction, improvement or equipment, Public space collection, Multi-Family collection

Concisely explain how your project achieves the selected focus?

If new materials are collected ensure that is described. Please be concise.

The newly installed drop-off sites will service residents of Ionía that have been requesting recycling services in areas that have previously had none. These residents have reported throwing their recyclables in solid waste bins, driving to drop-off sites in adjacent counties, or even burning their waste with no other alternative. Imitating models from other counties, the drop-off sites will each include two compactors (one for cardboard, one for plastics, glass, and cans), a concrete pad, signage, and security cameras to deter illegal dumping. This model has proven successful in Montcalm County as they have limited their contamination rate in recycling to less than 6%. By placing a drop-off site in Belding, Saranac, Muir, and Portland, all residents will have such a site within ten miles .

Funding Needs and budget

What items will be purchased with grant funds and what is the intended use?

Compactor - Eight total to limit number of pulls from hauler
Security Cameras - Ensure compliance and limit contamination
Concrete Pad - placement for compactor/dumpster units, 45'x25'x6" with ADA accessible ramp leading to compactor opening
Street Lamp - two per site, placed for security and accessibility

On-site Signage - four per site, placed for accessibility and education
Three-Phase Extension - Sites currently have three-phase electricity available nearby, but require approximately 100' of extension with site variable site preparation costs.
Municipal Flyers - Informational and educational flyers will be designed and set to all households in Ionia County in tax mailers.

Please provide an itemized list of project expenses and specify in "amount requested" how much grant funding will be used for each budget item. Note, the amount requested for each budget item may be less than the total cost of that budget item or some budget items may not be covered by any grant dollars.

Budget Line Item

Compactor Unit

Quantity

8

Unit Price

\$17,600

Amount Requested

\$111,232

Match Amount

\$29,568

Budget Line Item

Compactor Install

Quantity

8

Unit Price

\$3,000

Amount Requested

\$18,960

Match Amount

\$5,040

Budget Line Item

Security Camera + Install

Quantity

8

Unit Price

\$1,000

Amount Requested

\$6,320

Match Amount

\$1,680

Budget Line Item

25'x45'x6" Concrete pad with ADA accessible ramp

Quantity

4

Unit Price

\$16,250

Amount Requested

\$51,350

Match Amount

\$13,650

Budget Line Item

Street Lamp/Lighting

Quantity

8

Unit Price

\$3,000

Amount Requested

\$18,960

Match Amount

\$5,040

Budget Line Item

Three-Phase Extension (100' per site)

Quantity

4

Unit Price

\$5,000

Amount Requested

\$15,800

Match Amount

\$4,200

Budget Line Item

Quantity

Unit Price

Amount Requested

Match Amount

Budget Line Item

Quantity

Unit Price

Amount Requested

Match Amount

Budget Line Item

Quantity

Unit Price

Amount Requested

Match Amount

Total Grant Request:

\$222,622.00

Total Project Budget (Grant Request + Match)

\$281,800.00

Match Percent:

21

(+) Add additional Budget items (select the number of additional rows needed):

Add 6 additional rows

For larger projects, please upload a full project budget (any format)

[Full Recycling Project Budget.xlsx](#)

If your grant request is over \$500,000, please upload the most recent audit of the fiduciary entity.

The Recycling Partnership (TRP) may have funding options to support your initiative. NextCycle Michigan staff could also be an additional resource to support navigating funding pathways and connecting with funding partners.

Current Activities and Program Impact

Fill in any applicable fields regarding your current program:

Collection Method:

(curbside, drop-off, single stream, dual stream, source separated, etc.)

Curbside (Belding and Ionia only), Drop-off in Portland

Collection Frequency:

(weekly, bi-weekly, etc.)

Every other week (Belding and Ionia), Monthly (Portland)

Volume of Containers:

96 gallon

Current Material List:

Plastics, cans, paper, cardboard, glass

Describe your service area including geographical reach (counties, municipalities, institutions) and/or those serviced (number of households, population served, units, serviced or others).

The cities of Ionia, Belding, and Portland are currently served by existing curbside and drop-off recycling services. The currently unserved remaining rural population (35,568) will be served by the three new drop-off facilities.

Where does your material go? Please include the name and location of your processor, broker and/or end market.

Granger Waste Services currently takes all materials to Emterra Environmental Material Recovery Facility in Lansing, Michigan. At electronics and household hazardous waste collection events, CompRenew (Grand Rapids, Michigan) collects all used electronics and Veolia (Livonia, Michigan) collects hazardous waste. A requirement of the bidding process will be that the materials collected from the compactor units will be traceable to a local Materials Recovery Facility, either in Sunfield, Lansing, or Grand Rapids, Michigan. Representatives of both companies are members of the newly formed Ionia Materials Management Planning Committee and are trusted to make the logistically responsible choice.

Describe your operation funding sources such as user fees, millage, special assessments, general funds, etc.

Continued operation and pulling of the compactors will be funded through user surcharges from Pitsch Sanitary landfill, a funding mechanism established in the existing host community agreement. This brings in \$1/ton of solid waste disposed at the landfill in Orleans Township. This amount is subject to increase pending the adoption of a new host community agreement by the end of 2024. Match funding for this program will be supplied by the existing county funds allocated to recycling services.

Describe your existing program partners and/or collaborators:

Currently, Ionia County collaborates with the Cities of Ionia, Belding, and Portland and their associated Departments of Public Works and Fire Departments to coordinate hazardous household waste collection events. At these events, scrap metal and electronics are also collected through Portland Iron and Metal and CompRenew in Grand Rapids. The District also maintains a close relationship with Twin Rivers Elementary School where outreach events are frequently hosted.

Check all that apply to your existing recycling education / outreach program:

Website, Traditional media (print, television, radio, outdoor, etc.), Social or digital media (Facebook, Instagram, paid search, etc.), Mailer, Special events

Describe how this project will show improvement from your current program:

The current program does not service the rural residents of Ionia County who have been requesting that the county and their municipalities provide recycling services for years. The existing recycling services have been reported to be inconsistent and spread across multiple haulers. The new program will provide opportunities for those who wish to participate to engage in environmentally responsible practices in a consistent and easily reportable way. Drop-off site placement will provide drop-off service in each corner of the county within 10 miles of every resident of Ionia County. Data collected (digital, physical, and in-person) of over 500 rural residents in Ionia County showed that 86% of respondents would use recycling drop-off services if a facility existed within 10 miles of their residence. Historically, the rural residents have had limited access to solid waste services no access to any recycling services. This population, according to the Distressed Community Index, is either at risk or is distressed due to low income and lack of education. This project will provide recycling services for every Ionia County resident at no direct cost to the taxpayers. While the site will not be attended at all times, the sites will be under video surveillance and placed on municipal property to allow for daily monitoring by municipal staff in the event of illegal dumping or an emergency. Specifically, the proposed sites in Belding and Portland will be attached to Department of Public Works buildings where staff will be present to ensure compliance and cleanliness. The Saranac and Muir sites are adjacent their respective village halls where they will also be monitored.

Select which project metrics apply:

For each project metric selected, additional fields will display for you to input known data.

Collection Volume, Service Population, Type of Materials

Current Annual Collection Volume:

2,250

Expected Annual Collection Volume:

2,918

Unit used:

Tons

Annual Increase:

668

Current Service Population:

10,771

Expected Service Population:

35,500

Unit used:

Service Area Population

Annual Increase:

24,729

Expected Material List:

Cardboard, plastics, aluminum cans, glass. Estimates provided by communication with Granger Waste Services, the current curbside hauler in the cities of Ionia and Belding, and tons collected per site and population in Montcalm County.

Supporting Data (optional):

Describe how your project will benefit Environmental Justice or underserved and/or vulnerable populations:

The rural residents of Ionia County currently have no access to recycling facilities within a reasonable distance in the county. This disproportionately affects these residents by grouping together the recyclables and solid waste in disposal. Already limited in disposal resources, rural residents either dispose of their waste via garbage haulers or through burn piles. The plastics that could otherwise be recycled by these residents create additional carcinogenic pollutants and are permanently removed from the circular economy. According to the Distressed Community Index, the rural residents that are affected by this disparity have disproportionately lower income, lesser access to community resources, and are less educated than their more urban counterparts that have access to recycling facilities. Specific to the northern portion of this project in Orleans/Otisco Townships, the solid waste entering the Pitsch Sanitary Landfill is of particular concern to rural residents in that area that have a distressed score of 87.7 (at-risk or distressed) and will directly benefit from limiting the solid waste entering the landfill. These areas, that have been intentionally disparaged, require intentional attention as we collaborate with community leaders to provide equitable access to environmentally sustainable resources.

Briefly Describe any new education efforts that will be undertaken as a result of the grant project.

Type N/A if there are no new education efforts.

Ionia Conservation District will learn from the trials and successes in Montcalm County and host educational events and create promotional materials that will promote the responsible and sustainable disposal of recyclable materials. The district understands that education about what can and cannot be recycled takes time and training and is committed to ensuring that rural Ionia residents that are interested in recycling have all of the available resources to become a sustainable community and contribute to the circular economy. The District is requesting funding from the Recycling Partnership for educational flyers to be sent to all residents in Ionia County describing the benefits of recycling, what can be recycled at the drop-off sites, and where they are located. The District will also leverage existing partnerships with youth organizations (4-H, Future Farmers of America, National Honors Society, etc.) to promote recycling at high traffic times at the compactors. This will take the form of can drives hosted by the organizations and the District where the students provide informational flyers to residents using the drop-off sites, creating an opportunity for the next generation to take the lead in educating adults. These flyers will also be distributed at the household hazardous waste collection events to generate awareness among residents that are already environmentally conscious.

Describe how your project addresses Greenhouse Gas emissions:

Recycling materials reduces the need for the harvesting and consumption of virgin materials, specifically metals and oil for plastics. Further, by increasing availability and feasibility of recycling drop-off sites, the unaccounted for greenhouse gasses released from residents who currently engage in waste burning practices will also be reduced as residents use these facilities that will be free of cost to them and within ten miles. The materials collected will re-enter the circular economy and will be measured monthly by the haulers. Reports from Pitsch Sanitary Landfill will also be reported monthly to monitor the amount of waste interred in the landfill. Annual solid waste tonnage reports from EGLE will also be used to quantify the amount of waste generated in Ionia County that is sent to landfills in other counties.

Please upload any supporting data for environmental and climate metrics:

(Optional)

Guidance on measuring environmental outcomes is included in [“Measuring Environmental and Economic Impact”](#).

What County or Counties will your project impact?

To select multiple counties hold "Ctrl" and click each county name. To unselect, continue holding "Ctrl" and re-click a highlighted county name

Ionia County

How would you categorize your geographical impact?

Regional impact refers to if your project impacts multiple counties or areas. County-wide projects should impact the whole county including in large cities and rural areas. Rural would consider any communities not in an urban area.

Rural area

Briefly describe the geographical impact of your project (How will a specific area, region, city, or county be impacted?):

This project will impact the historically disadvantaged rural areas of Ionia County. The residents of this area that have lesser access to education and community resources will

benefit from these drop-off sites that will be free of charge to them and promoted in an equitably targeted manner. The targeted low-income rural residents will have an opportunity to reduce their waste bills by diverting recyclable waste from their own collection bins, which will in turn be diverted from landfills. Each of the host communities (Portland Township, City of Belding, Village of Saranac, and Village of Muir) are strategically placed so that a drop-off site will be accessible within 10 miles of every resident in Ionia County. In surveys collected from residents and municipal officials over the past five years, a common request in drop-off sites has been that they be a little to no cost to residents and that they be within 10 miles for easy access.

Upload any additional supporting data or information regarding this project:

(Optional)

Partnerships and Collaborations

Describe community support and/or partners for the grant project. Describe how/if the funding provided in this grant is leveraging additional investment from partners.

The communities that will benefit from this project are already limited in their operational funds. Respecting these communities and approaching this issue from an equitable lens, this project will ask for in-kind contributions up to \$5,000 annually from each host community that can be in labor (public works employees monitoring the site, snow removal, maintenance), installation materials (concrete, steel barriers, site preparation), education in tax flyers, or cash for the use of the county or conservation district to use for materials management projects. The host communities (Portland Township, City of Belding, Village of Saranac, and Village of Muir) will be expected to collect and/or report the in-kind matches, which will be reviewed by the Ionia Conservation District and County of Ionia. By providing this match, the communities that benefit from the site placements will have local investiture and will take pride in the cleanliness and maintenance of the sites. The County of Ionia is also seeking collaboration concurrently with the Recycling Partnership for this project.

Please upload a letter of support from each of the project partners. Select the number of letters you plan to attach.

You can save this draft to add letters at a later time or once you submit your application edit before the Grant Cycle closing date to attach Letters. If you have more than 10 letters please combine pdfs.

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If new drop-off locations will be established on property not owned by the fiduciary entity, please upload a letter of support from the property owner.

Letter of Support

[Clarksville Support.pdf](#)

Letter of Support

[Portland Support.pdf](#)

Letter of Support

[Belding Support.pdf](#)

Letter of Support

[Saranac Support.pdf](#)

Letter of Support

[Danby Support.pdf](#)

Letter of Support

[Muir Support.pdf](#)

Work Plan and Timeline

Long Term Viability: Describe how the project will be sustained beyond the grant timeline.

At present, the tipping surcharge (\$1/ton) gained from Pitsch Sanitary Landfill provides on average \$100,000 per year to Ionia County for recycling efforts, household hazardous waste cleanup, and repairs on the roads surrounding the landfill. This funding, along with an updated Host Community Agreement that is being drafted as part of the new Materials Management Plan and income generated from cardboard recycling (\$160/ton currently) will sustainably fund the collection of materials and the maintenance of the compactors. Each host community for a drop-off site will also be required to provide \$5,000 of in-kind match that can be collected from the serviced municipalities. This in-kind match will take the form of maintenance services such as daily monitoring, minor repairs, snow removal, contamination removal, salting in winter, and other general tasks.

Provide a brief narrative describing the work plan and timeline:

The placement of sites will be staggered to allow for public communication and education, as well as providing space for project manager capacity. The county will be split into two regions, east and west, as it is a square. The eastern sites (Muir and Portland Township) will be completed in 2025. Each has unique infrastructure needs that will be met as the municipal incentive match. Village of Muir will prepare the site by removing 8,000 square feet of trees for the concrete pad. Portland Township is building a new township hall and is prepared to offer infrastructure as match. In the three months before installation, all planning finalization will take place including purchasing all materials and contracting the installation of the sites. Site I will be installed in April 2025, Site II will be installed in October 2025. The same process will occur for the western sites (City of Belding and Village of Saranac). They will also provide match as infrastructure with installation of Sites III and IV occurring in April 2026 and October 2026 respectively. Final reporting will occur immediately following the completion of Site IV. Throughout placement and usage, the hauler will provide monthly tonnage reports of cardboard and single stream to the Materials Management Planning Committee for review and reporting to EGLE.

- December 2023: Site determination.
- May 2024: Receive approval from county commissioners, sign Notice of Intent.
- May 2024: Receive approval for site placement from municipalities.
- May 2024: Submit EGLE Infrastructure Grant, Recycling Partnership Grant
- June 2024: Initiate Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC).
- January 2025: Hire Materials Management Support Staff.
- April 2025: Site I placement.
- October 2025: Site II placement.
- April 2026: Site III placement.
- October 2026: Site IV placement.

Work Plan and Timeline Upload:

[Recycling Project Gantt.xlsx](#)

Please attach a descriptive work plan and timeline which includes:

- Identification of the tasks and responsible party for implementation of the project.
- Identification of the tasks and party responsible for preparing quarterly progress reports and the final project report.
- A timeline of activities, showing when each task described will be started and completed.
- Identification of when quarterly milestones will be achieved.

Closing:

UEI Number of fiduciary entity

If known, use www.sam.gov to find your UEI number if you have one. This process is free, but may take multiple days to receive your number.

VVZDLA7H4EC5

Federal ID Number of fiduciary entity

Will be required if selected for final review

38-6004857

Has the fiduciary entity applied to or received a grant from the State of Michigan?

No

E-Signature of authorized individual

By typing your name you are signing this application and confirming that all information is accurate to the best of your knowledge.

Patrick S Jordan

Signed Date

05/15/2024