

Drop-off Improvement Grant (DIG) 2024



**Promoting Environmentally-Friendly Waste
Management Practices
Throughout Geauga and Trumbull Counties**

Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District

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Application for Recycling Drop-off Site Improvement Assistance

The Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste District offers over 40 locations for residents to bring their bottles and cans, etc. for recycling. The District partners with local governments, schools, and other entities to provide that service to the community. We know maintaining a recycling drop-off location can be challenging, and we want to help.

The Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District is accepting applications for site improvement funds for your local recycling drop-off site. These grants are offered to local governments (townships, villages, cities and counties), schools and other entities that provide district-sponsored drop-off site locations for recyclables.

How much funding can applicants receive?

Applicants can receive up to \$15,000 for improvements at their recycling site.

How much funding do applicants have to contribute?

Assistance requires a minimum 10% match from the entity hosting the site.

The District provides a specified amount of money in the budget each year for the Recycling Drop-off Site Improvement Program. (For yearly funding amounts, contact the District office). **Funding is competitive. Requests may exceed funding, so there is no guarantee your application will be awarded.**

Applications will be reviewed by a committee who will make award recommendations to the Board of Directors. **The applications must be received via email or mail to the address listed above by Friday, February 2, 2024.**

Examples of potential projects (not all-inclusive):

- Gravel
- Concrete pad repair/replacement
- Fencing
- Additional lighting
- Security cameras to prevent illegal dumping
- Signage
- Gates

Examples of funded Drop-off Improvement Grants:

Brookfield Township – Cameras, fencing, protection for nearby waterway

Newton Township – Concrete pad, fencing, lighting and signage

Johnston Township – Fencing and drainage improvements

Thompson Township – Security cameras and screening

Huntsburg Township – Gravel, and lighting/electrical upgrades

Chester Township – Gates and cameras

If you have an idea for an improvement that is not on this list, please CALL to discuss. We are open to new, innovative ideas!

How will the application be judged?

The following are some but not all of the criteria the committee will use to judge the applications:

- The project fits into the District goals as outlined in the solid waste management plan.
- The application shows a clear idea of the scope of the project and a plan for implementation.
- The application describes how the project will be publicized and how it will educate the general public about the efforts of the applicant and the Geauga-Trumbull SWMD.
- Preference is given to applicants using local vendors – either in District, or in the State of Ohio.
- The program will be self-sufficient after the initial funding request.
- Organizations that have already received money may take a lower priority.
- The project would be a viable demonstration project so information could be shared with other communities in the District.

Timeline and Recordkeeping

All applicants selected to receive grant funding from the Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District will sign an agreement form before commencement of project. **NO MATERIALS MAY BE ORDERED/PURCHASED OR CONTRACTOR AWARDED WORK BEFORE THE CONTRACT IS SIGNED.** The project must be completed, and reimbursement paperwork submitted to the District by June 30, 2025. Any grants that go beyond these completion dates may be revoked. A grant closeout report will be required by all applicants who receive grant funding at the end of the grant project.

This is a reimbursement grant. Your organization pays everything upfront for your project, and when it is complete you will submit a letter requesting reimbursement. Copies of all invoices, receipts, and proof of payment is required. There must be an audit trail consisting of receipts that account for all used funds.

Acknowledgement

As part of the award, you will be required to show recognition of grant funding with signage/recognition at the project site. Signage costs can be reimbursed through the grant. **Signage design must be pre-approved by District staff before installation.**