

Henry County SWMID



2025 Annual Report

Mission Statement

Henry County Solid Waste Management District was created to evaluate existing solid waste management programs, to protect future needs of the District and identify the combination of existing new programs and services needed to manage the District's solid waste. Moreover, the District will aid Henry County residents with the implementation of solid waste manage programs targeted toward meeting Indiana's long-term waste reduction goals, preserving and enhancing the environment, protecting natural resources and the public health and safety of the citizens of Henry County.

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General Information

2025 Board of Directors

Greg York, ChairmanMayor
Kristi Mosier, Vice Chairman.....Town Council
Susan Huhn.....Henry Co. Commissioner
Steve Dellinger.....Henry Co. Commissioner
Joe Wiley.....Henry Co. Commissioner
Mike Regner.....County Council
Aaron Dicken.....City Council

*Joe Bergacs—Attorney for the District

2025 Citizens Advisory Committee

Donna Tauber Richard Bouslog
Marianne Hughes Kerry Brough
Noah Brown Hope Rice
Tim Rice

District Staff

Melissa Hiday.....Director
Sarah Sexton.....Administrative Assistant
Bryan Mitchell.....Education Coordinator (from 7/21/2025)
Karee Buffin.....Education Coordinator (until 5/1/2025)
Cinda McMillan.....Part-Time Clerk
Stacy MulfordReUse Center Clerk

Phone: 765-529-1691

Email: info@henrycountyrecycles.com

Website: henrycountyrecycles.com

Letter from the Director

What a year we had! 2025 continued to amaze me as our community embraced our programs. As director for the last 4 years, I have learned so much about what it takes for Henry County Solid Waste District to be successful and to continue to improve existing programs and to expand with new programs that help us be better stewards of our community.

The District participated in many events in 2025 including: 2 shred days, the Cool Climate Festival (we are the official organizer of the festival and partner with Healthy Communities and the New Castle Climate Action Team), Tox Away Day, Renaissance Fair, NC-HC Public Library summer reading kickoff, the Downtown Christmas Walk, and we hosted a teacher open house for our ReUse Center which introduced many new people to the program. Due to public demand for increased recycling of household hazardous waste, the District is now holding monthly Tox Drop Days in the city parking lot behind the office.

Our educators Karee Buffin, and now Bryan Mitchell visited many classrooms and organizations to present programs on a multitude of topics including composting, Recycling 101 and Recycle Relay, clean water and conservation, upcycling, and the edible landfill. We continue to expand our public outreach and plan to reach more classrooms and organizations than ever before.

We continue to look for ways to recycle many hard-to-recycle items, including single-use plastics. The NexTrex recycling program has become a huge success. We recycled 3700 pounds of plastic bags and overwraps and were rewarded with another bench for the District as well as one for Healthy Communities. We are filling a minimum of 1 55-gallon bag of plastic bags each day!

Our second largest recycling program, Electronics Recycling, is continuing to grow! We set another record for tv's collected in one year: 538! We have also seen an increase in overall e-scrap recycling that requires monthly pick-ups from our recycler.

The biggest feather in our cap was when the City of New Castle was awarded the designation from IDEM as an Indiana Clean Community. In partnership with the Mayor's Office and other city offices and programs, we became one of 12 Clean Communities throughout the state. I will continue to spearhead this program for our city, and hope, that with continued cooperation from several city departments, we will reach the next award level, Silver Status, by the end of 2026.

I am very excited about the momentum we built in 2025 and can't wait to see what new challenges come in 2026!

Melissa Hiday, Executive Director

Fiscal Information

Henry County SWMD

Account Balances as of December 31, 2025

Checking Account—Citizen’s State Bank....	\$482,615.84
Savings Account—Citizen’s State Bank.....	\$55,954.98
Petty Cash.....	\$100.00
Total.....	\$538,670.82

Grants Received

IN Department of Environmental Management Tire Recycling Grants

\$19,400

Recycling

Contractor: Best Way Disposal/East Central Recycling Facility

Public Recycling Sites

In an effort to help preserve our natural resources, conserve energy, and reduce pollution, Henry County SWMD provides 8 public recycling drop-off sites for residents of Henry County.

New Castle:

NC Transit Station 201 S. 25th (corner of 25th & Broad)
Corner of Broad St. & 11th St. (behind Honey Blonde Hair Company)

Mooreland:

Corner of Mills St. and Cory St. (behind former grocery store)

New Lisbon:

In front of fire department/post office 6629 E CR 500 S (east of Wilbur Wright Rd. at 500 S)

Mt. Summit:

At Mt. Summit Park (behind former school admin building at S. Walnut & Church streets)

Lewisville:

Lewisville Park— corner of Helen Blvd. & Union St.

Springport:

Across from Post Office at 312 W. Main St.

Middletown:

653 Locust St. behind municipal building

Recycling

2025 Tonnage—Public Sites

Mt. Summit	31.73
Middletown	96.23
New Lisbon	27.84
Springport	14.47
Mooreland	19.17
Lewisville	13.38
Broad & 11th St. (alley)	9.09
New Castle—25th Street	216.15

Total for Public Sites

856,160 pounds

Or

428.08 tons

Recycling

2025 Tonnage – Schools, Agencies, Non-Profits, & Seasonal

Schools

Wilbur Wright Elementary	8.97
Knightstown HS, MS, Elementary	10.88
Tri High School	4.87
Eastwood Elementary	4.75
New Castle Middle School	8.49
Parker Elementary	6.85
Riley Elementary	23.96
Sunnyside Elementary	3.47
Westwood Elementary	4.64
Greenstreet Elementary	3.47
Shenandoah HS/Elementary	6.30
Blue River HS/Elementary	3.13
Agape Preschool	4.77
First Baptist Preschool	9.52

Total for Schools

208,140 pounds

or

104.07 tons

Total for Agencies & Non Profits

130,820 pounds

or

65.41 Tons

Agencies

ICAP	4.76
HC Humane Society	1.2
God's Grain Bin	12.04
Salvation Army	7.26
First Assembly of God Food Pantry	2.42
YMCA	4.84
Mooreland Food Pantry	2.61
Henry County SWMD	4.12
Henry County Jail	9.67
NC-HC Public Library	10.62
Henry County Highway Dept.	4.81

Total for Seasonal

1,640 pounds

or

.82 Tons

Seasonal

Henry County Saddle Club	.82
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Electronics Recycling

Contractors: Technology Recyclers/Recycle Force and NuGenesis/Caldwell Environmental

8 collections from District Office

Office Collections:	Pounds
E-Scrap, including small appliances	47,246
Household Batteries	<u>5,419</u>
Total	52,665

Tox Away Day:	
E-Scrap, including small appliances	7,118
Large Appliances (not accepted at District office)	3,989
Household Batteries	<u>399</u>
Total	11,506

Grand Total E-Scrap Collections=64,171 pounds or 32.09 tons

HHW

Household Hazardous Waste

4 Collections from District Office & Tox Away Day

<u>Category</u>	<u>Per</u>	<u>Total Units</u>
Loose Pack Flammable	pound	297
Paint Yard Boxes	pound	4797
Aerosols	pound	711
Corrosives/Bases	pound	241
Corrosives/Acids	pound	211
Non-Reg Liquids & Solids	pound	140
Toxic Liquids	pound	55
Oxidizers	drum	1
<u>Lightbulbs</u>		
Fluorescent tubes	each	982
U-shape, round	each	23
CFL	each	103
Mercury/Halide	each	83
Ballasts	each	1
Propane Tanks	each	2
Helium Tanks	each	4
Sharps, box	each	3
Pesticides, liquid & Solids	pound	1621
Ammonia	drum	1
Flammables	drum	1
Cleaners, adhesives	drum	3
Oil & filters	pound	310
Antifreeze	pound	198
Fire Extinguishers & Smoke Detectors	each	20

**Grand Total HHW= 8581 pounds or 8.40 tons + 2221 items +
(6) 55-gallon drums (app. 3000 pounds)**

Paper Shredding

Contractor - Crowe Shredding

The District provides On-Site Document Shredding events twice each year. This is an important service for the District to provide residents of Henry County. Residents are permitted to bring 10 banker boxes of documents (or the equivalent) to an event. Documents are shredded as residents watch. We are provided a Certificate of Destruction from Crowe Shredding after each event which states that “all documents and materials received by Crowe Shredding have been completely destroyed per the Crowe Shredding Controlled Destruction Process, on the documented service date. It also certifies that all such materials, from the time of removal from existing storage or Crowe Shredding security containers, transported to on-site shredding truck, and during the shredding destruction process, remained complete confidential and in the secure possession of Crowe Shredding.”

April 12th Shred Event

158 residents participated

and a total of 10,500 pounds of documents were shredded.

October 5th Shred Event

65 residents participated

and a total of 4,500 pounds of documents were shredded.

Total amount of documents shredded

15,000 pounds or 7.50 tons.

Waste Tire Collection

With funding from the Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management Waste Tire Grant Program, the district was able to conduct 2 waste tire collection events. At both events, patrons were able to drop off waste tires, and the Henry County Highway Dept. was able to dispose of a semi-trailer full of waste tires that have been collected along roadsides throughout the years.

Tires Collected:

2,557 tires (auto, truck, farm)

Total Weight: 85,215 pounds or 42.61 tons

Plastic Bag Collection

Through the NexTrex Program (part of the Trex company) the district has been collecting plastic bags, films, and overwraps that will be converted into composite materials for decking and patio furniture. When 1000 pounds is collected, the District or other community program is awarded a Trex bench.

In 2025, we collected:

3,700 pounds or 1.85 tons

TerraCycle

The District participates in the TerraCycle program which allows patrons to drop off hard-to-recycle items. We then package the items a few times each year to send in to TerraCycle. In 2025, we recycled: socks, disposable razors and packaging, toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, floss containers and packaging, and air freshener containers.

The ReUse Center

The Reuse Center was created in August of 2004 using grant dollars received from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. The grant dollars were used to address the quantity of materials/items that are generated by business, industry, and residents of Henry County that would normally be destined for the landfill. Instead, these materials/items can be donated to The ReUse Center to benefit educators, churches, civic groups, non-profit agencies, organizations or those who homeschool. These items are free of charge. Businesses, industry and residents can donate unwanted, overstocked, outdated or by-product materials to the center. We track what is taken out of the Reuse Center by weight. The ReUse Center saw more than double the participation in 2025.

The total amount of supplies/items that were diverted from the landfill through this program for 2025 was

3,401 pounds!!

In 2025 we added two new programs to the ReUse Center initiative: The Wedding Lending Station and Christmas Decoration Giveaway. Both programs have enabled us to bring in more residents to the ReUse Center and to divert more items from the landfill



Education and Public Information

To ensure that all of our citizens, both young and old, realize the value of our environment and its resources, the district provides a variety of educational activities, programs and services. These are provided for residents of Henry County for the annual fee of \$12.00.

Reuse Center: The Reuse Center accepts donations from residents as well as local business and industry. We accept unwanted, overstocked, or by-product materials. The materials in the Reuse Center are available to educators, those who home school, not for profits and churches of Henry County.

Wedding Lending Station: A new program in 2025. Patrons contribute gently-used wedding/party decorations that can then be borrowed for up to 3 weeks.

Public Recycling: We have 8 public recycling sites available.

Used Household Battery Sites: Household batteries are collected at different locations within Henry County. We accept AA, AAA, C, D and 9 volt batteries, as well as power tool battery packs. Batteries are accepted at the following sites:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Henry County Solid Waste District | Spiceland Town Hall, front porch |
| First Baptist Church lobby | Goodwill |
| NC-HC Public Library | Addison Place |
| Raintree Square | Summit Lake State Park Office |
| St. Anne Catholic Church | Citizens State Bank |
| Middletown Public Library | Lewisville Town Hall |

Tox-Away Day: We provided a Tox-Away event once each year. This was one of the most critical services that we offered due to the high potential for household hazardous waste to pollute our environment. We accepted household cleaners, antifreeze, brake fluids, cleaners, flammables, pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, acids and bases, corrosives, aerosols and oil filters. We also accepted electronics, tires, appliances containing refrigerants, fluorescent and CFL light bulbs and batteries. This has changed to monthly Tox Drop Days beginning in October 2025.

Electronics Recycling: The district collects electronics throughout the year at the district office. We accept 50+ electronics for recycling such as televisions, computers, monitors, printers, copiers, satellite equipment, etc. Our website has a complete list. Please go to www.henrycountyrecycles.com for more information.

Education and Public Information

Fluorescent/CFL Bulb Recycling: Henry County residents are permitted to drop off fluorescent and CFL bulbs that they generate in their homes. These bulbs contain mercury dust which can pollute the environment.

Plastic Bags & Films Recycling: The district collects plastic bags, plastic films and overwraps as part of the NexTrex Challenge. Bags collected are then recycled into composite material that is then made into a bench for our community.

Used Printer & Toner Cartridges: We accept used printer cartridges for recycling.

Recycling Container Loan-Out Program: The district has 12 Clear Stream portable recycling containers and 7 larger recycling containers on wheels for the collection of plastic bottles and aluminum cans. These containers are used at the Mooreland Free Fair, Middletown Fair, Cool Climate Festival, Renaissance Fair and New Castle Plaza Events. Containers can also be borrowed for events upon request.

Food Grade Buckets from Kroger: Kroger donates their empty frosting buckets, which are food grade, for district personnel to pick up. These can be used for picking garden produce, planting tree seedlings, etc.

Environmental Education Programs

Some of the environmental education programs we provide to community clubs, agencies, and classrooms include:

Environmental Bingo

Recycled Paper	Climate Change
Edible Landfill	Recycling Relay
Vermi-Composting	Waste-Free Lunch
Fast Fashion	Clean Oceans
Recycling 101	Plastic Upcycling

2025 Total Tonnage

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) 12,832 lbs. or 6.42 tons

The HHW total includes 2221 items which are listed as ‘each’ on the manifest.

Those items include:

- ◇ Fluorescent, Mercury, CFL, and LED bulbs
- ◇ Ballasts
- ◇ Propane & helium tanks
- ◇ Fire extinguishers & Smoke Detectors
- ◇ Sharps

Electronics/Appliances (E-Scrap) 64,171 lbs. or 32.09 tons

Recycling—Public/Schools/Agencies 1,196,760 lbs or 598.38 tons

Paper Shredding 15,000 lbs. or 7.50 tons

Plastic Bag Recycling 3,700 lbs. or 1.85 tons

Waste Tires 85,215 lbs. or 42.61 tons

ReUse Center 3,401 lbs. or 1.7 tons

Kroger Buckets 491 buckets

Total pounds and tonnage for all of the District’s programs and services:

1,381,287 pounds

Or

690.54 tons diverted from our landfills!

Fun Facts

Televisions!

2016.....456

2017.....407

2018.....489

2019.....478

2020.....526

2021.....349

2022.....466

2023.....463

2024.....527

2025.....538

Total TV's Collected.....4,699

Earth Day Tree Campaign!

The District, partnering with Healthy Communities of Henry County, gave away/planted 3200 trees!



Thank You!

We would like to express our appreciation to all who generously contributed their time and energy to make our 2025 Henry County Tox Away Day a huge success!

- ◇ Members of the Henry County Sheriff's Dept.
- ◇ Staff of Caldwell Environmental

Thank you to the amazing District staff, Sarah Sexton, Bryan Mitchell, Cinda Koger, Stacy Mulford, and Karee Buffin who worked so hard to make our programs successful!

Thank you to Healthy Communities board members and all the volunteers who helped with our 2025 Earth Day Tree Program. They worked many hours to prepare 3,000 trees for distribution to help beautify Henry County!

Thank you to our Mayor, Greg York, and other city leaders who have helped support efforts to earn the designation for the city of New Castle as an Indiana Clean Community!



Important Dates for 2026

Henry County SWMD Board Meetings

4th Wednesdays of Month

4:30pm District Office

Shred Day: May 16th
9am-12 pm Public Library Parking Lot

Cool Climate Festival: May 2nd 11am-3pm
New Castle Arts Pavilion

Tire Recycling Day: June 6th??
Location tbd

Teacher Open House: August 1st 2-5pm
District Office

Tox Drop Days: First Wednesdays 9am-2pm
Race Street City Lot

**Follow Us on Facebook & Instagram or
check our website for more event information:**

www.henrycountyrecycles.com

<https://www.facebook.com/henrycountyrecycles>

Instagram: [henrycountyrecycles](https://www.instagram.com/henrycountyrecycles)