



**LEXINGTON**

**Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government**

**Area Solid Waste Management Plan – Five Year Update**

**2023-2027**

**Submitted by:** Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

Division of Waste Management

Solid Waste Coordinator

675 Byrd Thurman Dr

Lexington, KY 40510

**Submitted to:** Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Waste Management

Recycling and Local Assistance Branch

300 Sower Blvd

Frankfort, KY 40601

Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection  
Division of Waste Management  
Recycling and Local Assistance Branch  
300 Sower Boulevard – Frankfort KY 40601  
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**Area Solid Waste Management Plan - Five Year Update  
Years 2023 - 2027**

**1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**A. Area Designation**

1. Name of County or Regional Solid Waste Management Area ("RSWMA") Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

Check One:  County  Regional Solid Waste Management Area ("RSWMA")

If area designation is a RSWMA, list counties:

2. List all incorporated cities within the solid waste management area and the population of each.

1.) Lexington - Population: 322,570	2.)	3.)
4.)	5.)	6.)
7.)	8.)	9.)

**B. Governing Body Information**

1. Designation Type:  Fiscal Court  109 Board (Taxing)  109 Board (Non-taxing)  Regional Area  City/County Merger

2. Name of chairperson of the governing body (judge executive, chairperson, etc.) Mayor Linda Gorton

3. List each member of the governing body:

1.) Councilmember James Brown	2.) Councilmember Josh McCurn	3.) Councilmember Hannah LeGris
4.) Councilmember Susan Lamb	5.) Councilmember Liz Sheehan	6.) Councilmember David Kloiber
7.) Councilmember Preston Worley	8.) Councilmember Fred Brown	9.) Councilmember Whitney Baxter
10.) Councilmember Amanda Mays Bledsoe	11.) Councilmember Jennifer Reynolds	12.) Councilmember Kathy Plomin; Vice Mayor Steve Kay, At-Large Councilmember Richard Maloney, At-Large Councilmember Chuck Ellinger

4. Address: 200 E Main St

City: Lexington State: Kentucky Zip Code: 40507

5. Telephone: (859) 425-2255 6. Fax: (859) 258-3403 7. Email: mayor@lexingtonky.gov

**C. Solid Waste Coordinator Information**

1. Name of Coordinator: Tracey Turner Thurman, Director, Division of Waste Management

2. Address: 675 Byrd Thurman Dr

City: Lexington State: KY Zip Code: 40510

3. Telephone: (859) 280-8586 4. Fax: (859) 280-2852 5. Email: tthurman@lexingtonky.gov

6. Work Status (check one):

7. Hours worked per week: 40

Volunteer  Full-time  Part-time

**D. Advisory Committee**

List the names and representative bodies of the advisory committee members.

Name	Representing
1.) Ed Holmes, President, EHI Consultants	Business
2.) Don Gebhardt, Global Mgr. Env. Compliance, Valvoline	Industry
3.) Megan Cambron, Teacher, Tates Creek Elementary School	Resident
4.)	

5.)	
6.)	

**E. Preparer Information**

Complete this section, if the preparer is different than the solid waste coordinator.

1. Name: Tracey Turner Thurman

2. Address: 675 Byrd Thurman Dr

City: Lexington

State: KY

Zip Code: 40510

3. Telephone: (859) 280-8586

4. Fax: (859) 280-2852

5. Email: tthurman@lexingtonky.gov

**F. Resolution/Ordinance to Adopt Solid Waste Management Plan 5-Year Update**

1. Check one:      Resolution                              Ordinance

2. Public Notice Date: July 6, 2022

3. Date Signed: September 8, 2022

4. The following documents must be attached. Check all that have been attached and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "Chapter 1 Attachments."

- A signed and dated copy of the resolutions/ordinance adopting the 5-year update
- A dated original of the public notice, or a copy and an affidavit from the newspaper by whom the notice was originally published
- Area Designation

**2. COLLECTION SYSTEM**

**A. Collection System**

1. Ordinance Type (check one):              Mandatory                              Universal

Date passed: June 30, 1994

2a. Provide a detailed description of all the collection systems in your SWMA (collection systems include: franchise, permit, municipality owned/operated, private, staffed transfer stations and staffed convenience centers, etc.)

Lexington's Current Collection System – Lexington adopted a universal collection program in 1994 as required by KRS 224.43-315(1), which offers multiple options for collection of municipal solid waste within the county. As part of universal collection, Lexington provides collection services to qualifying residents through Lexington's Division of Waste Management. Additional options for waste collection and disposal are also outlined within the Five Year Plan, including collection by private hauling companies and provisions for self haul to the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station at a nominal gate rate (outlined in further detail, below, and included in Attachment 2.1).

Lexington collection services consist of city-issued curbside residential and commercial roll cart collection, commercial dumpster collection, private hauler curbside, commercial dumpster and compactor collection, and self-haulers. As of 2021, the Division of Waste Management provides service to 89.6% or around 98,000 of all residential homes within the county, while private haulers collect about 10.3% or around 11,000 residential homes. Less than 0.1% of total residential material collected is brought to the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station by citizens.

Lexington's Division of Waste Management provides collection services for both residential customers (refuse, recycling, yard and bulky waste) and commercial customers (roll carts and dumpsters). The fourth largest division in the city, and the largest municipal operation in the Commonwealth, Waste Management oversees a regional recycling facility, an electronic recycling facility, managed transfer station, composting operation, and permit compliance for two closed landfills. The Division provides services to over 98,000 residents and over 4,000 businesses each week, with over 1 million containers serviced each month. Lexington's Division of Waste Management's mission is to provide the citizens located within the Urban Service District safe, efficient waste management services in an environmentally and economically responsible manner.

In 1973, the City of Lexington and Fayette County Government merged to become the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government (hereby referred to as "Lexington"). Once merged, Lexington was divided into tax districts which consist of a general services district, a full urban services district and partial urban services districts. Residents living in a full urban service district and some of the partial urban service districts receive city collection services. In 1989, a policy was established placing all property zoned for development in the full urban services district. This means that all new residential subdivisions receive city collection services. Additionally, a procedure was established that allows residential properties to convert to full urban services by petition and a vote by a majority of citizens residing on a street. Through this petition process, residential properties not included in the urban services area have the opportunity to opt-in to receive city services.

Lexington currently has three main waste streams: landfill-bound waste, recycling material, and yard waste. The Division services just over 98,000 residential stops for up to three commodity types once per week. Weekly collection is also provided for bulky items, mattresses, tires, appliances, and dead animals, by request. Three rolling, 95-gallon containers are provided to each residence: a green container for landfill-bound waste, a blue container for recyclables and a gray container for yard waste. Smaller, 65-gallon carts are also available upon request.

All three container types are serviced with either an automatic side arm loader truck or a rear-loader truck, depending on the width of the residential street. Bulky items such as furniture or extra bagged waste are collected on the same day as the carts by rear-loader trucks. Mattresses, appliances, tires, and dead animals are collected weekly by special request, and are picked up with a variety of trucks. Mattresses are collected with a knuckle-boom truck, appliances with a lift-gate, flat bed truck, and dead animals and tires with pickup trucks.

**Lexington Commercial Collection** – The Division services nearly 4,000 business locations twice per week. Roll carts or dumpsters are serviced for landfill-bound waste and recycling at multifamily units, office buildings, and commercial and industrial units in the full urban services district and some of the partial services districts. Dumpster service is provided up to two times per week under the current rate system. However, an additional dumpster service is available for a fee. Waste Management services 3,789 dumpster containers with 14 front loader trucks. Containers permitted include four, six and eight cubic yard dumpsters. Lexington does not offer containers for purchase; dumpster containers must be purchased from the private hauler by the property owner. Comingled recycling dumpster collection services are also provided by Lexington. The Division services 547 recycling dumpsters twice a week, by two front loader trucks.

**Recycling Convenience Centers** - Lexington offers 15 locations throughout the county where residents can drop off comingled recyclable materials at no cost. Many of the sites are available and accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Lexington offers these drop sites to encourage recycling from all residents, especially those that may not wish to pay an additional collection fee to receive curbside service from private haulers.

**Lexington Regional Recycling Program** - Since 1989, Lexington has had a curbside recycling collection program, using a blue recycling roll cart. As of 2022, over 78,500 households subscribed to city curbside recycling collection out of the 98,000 total eligible residences. The 95-gallon, 65-gallon roll cart, personal container or additional bagged or stacked recycling material is serviced once per week, alongside the trash, yard waste and bulky pickup.

Lexington owns and operates a regional recycling facility that serves not only Lexington residents and businesses but also Central Kentucky Affiliate Partners. Lexington opened the facility in 1992 and accepts comingled recycling materials for processing. The facility is a significant asset to recycling efforts in the Central Kentucky region, and it is unique in that it is the only municipally owned and operated facility of its kind in the state and surrounding region.

In June 2010, Lexington converted to a single-stream recycling collection program when the Lexington Recycling Center went through a significant upgrade and expansion. During this upgrade period, the Bollegraf system was replaced with a \$3.5 million Machinex single-stream system. Major changes included incorporation of optical sorters for plastics, several walking-floor bunkers, a new Steinart elliptical eddy current sorter, and expansion of the tip floor. The system upgrade increased production capacity from less than 11 tons/hour to 24 tons/hour. Tonnage processed has increased steadily since the conversion. The facility processes around 36,000 tons of material each year.

In 2021 and the first quarter of 2022, Lexington completed over \$4.2 million in capital improvements, facility and equipment upgrades. These long-awaited upgrades allow Lexington residents as well as Central Kentucky affiliate partners to expand recycling initiatives in the region and improve the quality of recyclables processed for commodity sales. Upgrades included: three ballistic separators, which improved material separation and paper commodity quality while reducing residue and increasing recovered volume; an optical sorter for fiber cleanup, eliminating most hand sorting and the ability to achieve more stringent market specifications; a glass breaker to remove glass out of the system earlier in the process while reducing down time and wear and tear on equipment; OCC screen replacement to reduce plastic wrapping and the labor cost to remove lodged materials; as well as refurbishment of the infed conveyor line. Additionally, Lexington received grant funding from the Carton Council of North America to support the purchase one of the facility's new optical sorters as part of the 2021-22 facility upgrades. Through this partnership and with the addition of the new machinery, Lexington is now able to process cartons (i.e. milk, soup or orange juice cartons) in the comingled recycling program. This has now increased the volume of material diverted from the landfill. Lexington's Regional Recycling Facility now produces cleaner, high quality recyclables for the end market. Since 1989, Lexington has had a curbside recycling collection program in place, utilizing blue recycling boxes and roll carts. As of 2022, over 78,500 households subscribe to Lexington's curbside recycling collection.

**Waste Characterization Studies** - The Division conducted a waste characterization study in March 2022 to audit the current waste stream to see how well materials are currently handled and to identify additional items that could be diverted in future efforts. The study measures the current effectiveness of special collection programs such as electronics recycling and hazardous waste. Fifty random samples were taken from residential, commercial and self haul loads for the study and sorted into 55 categories. Since 2014, smaller amounts of certain materials such as cardboard and yard waste appeared in the waste stream as were present during the last time a study was conducted (2014). These conclusions help Lexington gauge the effectiveness of recent diversion efforts. Food waste was the most prevalent material found in the waste stream, and together with compostable paper totaled 27% of the total waste stream. If diverted from the landfill through alternative efforts, the study concluded that a 27% portion alone could save roughly 100,000 tons from being disposed of at landfills. Textiles accounted for 9% of the waste stream, pointing to another potential focus for future diversion efforts.

**Special Paper Collection Services** - In response to international trade and market changes in 2018, Lexington temporarily stopped accepting paper curbside and installed seven yellow paper-only collection dumpsters in 2020. Through this source-separation, 531 tons of clean paper were collected from Lexington residents in 2021 alone, creating cleaner material and resulting in a significant increase in the average market price when blended with sorted office paper the recycling center had received throughout this period. Since the beginning of yellow paper collection dumpster placements in 2020, total tonnage resulted in over 1,100 tons of clean paper collection recycling. Lexington continues to offer comingled recycling drop off at 15 different locations throughout Lexington, in addition to the source-separated yellow paper collection bins. This continues even after Lexington returned to curbside collection in April 2022.

**Biodigester Waste Disposal System** - Lexington City Council is currently considering a method of waste disposal similar to that of Sevierville, Tennessee. The process involves mixing municipal solid waste with sludge using large aerobic digesters to create an end product that can be used as a rich compost or mulch. Lexington leaders have visited the Tennessee facility and are looking into the possibility of pursuing this type of waste disposal, or an anaerobic type, system in Fayette County. The council will consider hiring a consultant to assess the feasibility of implementing such a system here locally.

**Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fleet** - Lexington's Division of Waste Management operates a fleet of 128 collection trucks and additional specialized vehicles of varying sizes and capacities. Currently, 75 of the 128 collection trucks operate on CNG, with ten additional on order. This means over 59% of the fleet runs on CNG, producing less emissions and noise overall. The Division of Waste Management has incorporated an initiative set forth by Lexington City Council to convert the entire fleet to CNG. The goal, established to improve air quality and reduce noise, is part of keeping the Bluegrass green.

**LFUCG Downtown Collection** - Lexington recognizes growth opportunities and prepares for increases in population, size and disposal needs.

As population levels become more dense and generate more tons of municipal solid waste as noted in later parts of this plan, the Division of Waste Management continually researches innovative methods of waste collection in high-density areas, exploring options used in other areas of the United States, as well as international waste collection methods. Lexington has explored underground storage collection services, multiple cart corral options, and continues to explore opportunities for a digester system to combine streams and address organic material.

Lexington's downtown area is densely populated with customers of all types (residential, schools, businesses, commercial, industrial). Due to this mix and limited space, Lexington provides waste and recycling collection six days a week twice per day (Monday through Saturday, 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. to 10 a.m.) to keep the area safe and clean at all times. Many customers in the downtown area do not have space available for a dumpster, so roll carts are serviced with a split-body rear loader truck that handles both refuse and recycling collection. Lexington also has a central cart corral area that is used by multiple businesses. Disposal carts are shielded from pedestrian traffic and make collection more efficient. Lexington also offers cart service options to downtown area residents based on placement standards.

**Ancillary Services** – The Division of Waste Management's ancillary services provide collection of dual-stream waste and recycling pitch-in containers along public roads within the downtown service quadrant multiple times a week. A crew is also available for litter, illegal dumping, or large set out issues that may arise in Lexington's Urban Service Area.

**Routing Software** - Lexington's waste collection vehicles are outfitted with Routeware, an automated routing system. This system allows for real-time service information and includes a searchable database system accessible by Division Dispatch and the city's 3-1-1 customer service agents. The system connects operations by helping to route pickup locations efficiently, collect GPS and data communications from drivers, allows for advanced data analysis, aides communications between the public and city operations and advances route accuracy and efficiency. The system also allows drivers to take pictures of problem collection areas that may require additional documentation. Overall, Routeware allows real-time service information and shows exactly when each collection point along a route was serviced.

**Exempt Collection Program** - Lexington is proud to administer the Exempt Collection Program to residents with physical limitation(s) which may prevent them from being able to place a residential waste collection cart at the curb for weekly service. The program is available to any resident with a disability, the elderly or those with a physical limitation that would require assistance with city trash and recycling collection services. The service requires a form be completed with a doctor's verification. Waste collection drivers service and return trash and recycling carts from the property's front or side yard location, making it safe and easy for residents to maintain regular, weekly trash and recycling collection. There are currently over 940 customers participating in the Exempt Collection Program.

**Collection Alternatives** - Lexington provides a year-round opportunity to those in need of disposing excess waste at the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station for a nominal fee. This self haul option allows residents and businesses to dispose of non-hazardous waste six days a week.

**Yard Waste Tipping Area** - Since the last five year plan, the Division of Waste Management established a city yard waste tip area. This effort was established to address the issue of driver hauling time and distance from the Haley Pike Compost Facility from routes within the Urban Service District. The Division designated an area behind the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station where city collection trucks can tip yard waste material. From this central tipping location, the material is hauled by a contracted vendor to the Haley Pike facility. This method of transporting yard waste materials has saved Lexington a significant amount of money in fuel and other truck maintenance costs as well as employee time in commute to and from the composting facility in waste management collection trucks.

**Waste Fleet Truck Wash** - The Division of Waste Management constructed an on-site large fleet truck wash within the last five year planning period. This truck wash, retrofitted from an older building already on-site, is dedicated to cleaning waste collection trucks. The convenience and ease of regularly running fleet vehicles through this new facility makes the maintenance of vehicles easier and allows for quick turnaround of routes from one day to the next. Cleaning the collection vehicles on a regular basis extends the life cycle of trucks, reduces maintenance costs, and most importantly reduces employee exposure to any hazards or toxins in residual garbage residue.

**GreenCheck Program** - Lexington contracts with Bluegrass Greensource, a local non-profit environmental educational and outreach organization, to administer the GreenCheck program available to businesses at no cost. GreenCheck is a certification program and is designed to provide resources and incentives to local businesses and organizations that want to increase recycling efforts, become more energy efficient and conserve water resources.

**Quarterly Free Disposal Days** – Lexington offers free quarterly disposal opportunities at the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station for all Lexington residents. Residents can drop off a level pickup truck load of household waste, and up to four tires, off the rims, at no cost once each quarter.

**Bi-Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – Lexington hosts two free household hazardous waste collection events each year for residents. The household hazardous waste collection efforts are supported through grant funding by Kentucky's Division of Waste Management to help divert materials from regular landfill-bound waste. In recent years, there has been a notable increase in total tonnage of household hazardous waste collected and the amount of participating residents. The Division offers two events per year, one in the spring and one in the fall. One of the collection events can be covered by state grant funds, while the additional event is paid for by city. In 2021, the city collected over 253,000 pounds of hazardous waste materials, which were handled by a contracted vendor and reused or recycled wherever possible. In 2021, over 2,900 vehicles dropped off materials between the two events held. Over the last five year period, nearly 620 tons of hazardous waste has been collected from Lexington residents through holding these events.

**Paper Shred Events** – A community paper shred is offered twice per year in partnership with Shred-it, a division of Stericycle. This event gives residents an easy option for keeping sensitive material secure while also recycling shredded material into low-grade paper products. Over 8,000 vehicles participated in events held in the last five years, which saw over 400,000 pounds of paper shredded and recycled.

**Mulch Giveaways** – The Division provides mulch giveaways throughout the year to re-distribute yard waste material collected from city residents, which is turned into nutrient-rich mulch material after a six month composting process. Residents may pick up mulch material for free at these events to help beautify yards and enrich gardens, and offers a great way to repurpose yard waste material collected. Over 1,100 tons of mulched yard waste material have been distributed to residents over the last five year period.

**Tire Collection Events** - Every three years in partnership with the state's Division of Waste Management, Lexington hosts a Waste Tire

**Collection Event.** Lexington held an event in conjunction with the state on November 4, 5 and 6 of 2021. A total of 14,578 truck, tractor and passenger tires were collected and recycled into rubber products such as car parts, tennis shoes and parking bumpers. Also held within the last five year period was another collection event in the fall of 2018, which saw a total of 17,835 tires dropped off for recycling. In addition to the state-sponsored event held every three years, Lexington also applies for the annual Waste Tire Grant. This grant provides \$4,000 annually to counties to assist with tire disposal and recycling.

**Loan-A-Box Dumpster Rental Program -** Lexington offers a Loan A Box program to residents, that allows for the temporary rental of a 10 cubic yard open-top trash dumpster. The service includes dumpster delivery and removal for a \$90 fee. This program is available to any residential location within Lexington's Urban Service District that is in need of a convenient disposal option for a large amount of waste. Residential locations receiving city waste collection services, as well as those receiving private waste hauling services are eligible. Large set outs, which can pose public health hazards, are mitigated through this popular program, too. Within the last five year period, the Division of Waste Management has designed an online reservation system that is used for scheduling and optimizing program capacity, and a credit card payment option is now the primary method of payment. Residents may check program availability and reserve a dumpster on the newly designed website, accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Over the past five year period, the program has noted a 13% increase in reservations.

**Private Hauler Collection -** Private haulers operate throughout the county and provide service to residential, commercial and industrial facilities. Private haulers provide services including residential curbside collection, commercial dumpster for recycling and landfill-bound waste collection, trash compactor collection, and open-top containers' collection for construction waste. The private haulers operating in Lexington are required to report annually in accordance with solid waste requirements include: Republic Services, Rumpke, Central Kentucky Hauling, and Waste Management.

**Vacuum Leaf Collection Program -** Residents of Fayette County who receive city waste collection service also receive curbside vacuum-leaf service every fall season. Streets & Roads crews service neighborhoods with specialized vacuum-equipped trucks to collect leaves that have been raked onto the curb or easement. Each neighborhood receives one pass on their streets. Lexington has the ability to notify affected residents through an alert system. Collected materials are taken to the composting facility for processing.

**Yard Waste Drop-Off (Public) -** Lexington provides a staffed yard waste drop-off center for Fayette County residents at the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility. Residents who do not have curbside yard waste collection available to them may utilize the facility for drop off; residents who have curbside collection, but have additional needs, may also utilize the facility. Lexington allows Fayette County residents to drop off up to two loads of material, free of charge, per month. The hours for the drop off facility are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility is closed on Wednesdays and the other Saturdays of the month. Personnel are available to assist residents during public drop off hours.

**Composting Workshops -** Lexington periodically offers home composting workshops, partnering with the University of Kentucky Extension Office, Bluegrass Greensource, Seedleaf and other community partners. Composting workshops are offered at no extra cost to residents wanting to learn how to divert organics and turn food waste into nutrient-rich soil for use in gardens and landscaping. Participants in workshops learn how to compost in their backyards. This makes a significant impact by reducing the overall tonnage that would otherwise end up in the landfill.

**Special Event Services -** The Division of Waste Management is proud to provide a variety of waste disposal services for special events in Lexington throughout the year. The Division works in close coordination with the Mayor's Office to provide waste and recycling services for events such as St. Patrick's Day, Thursday Night Live, Roots and Heritage Festival, Fourth of July as well as one-time large scale events attracting international audiences, such as the World Equestrian Games and Breeder's Cup. These efforts are part of Lexington's commitment to a greener Bluegrass.

**Severe Weather Plan -** During extreme and emergency weather events, the Division of Waste Management provides service to critical locations such as hospitals, shelters, community centers and universities to prevent waste build up during storms and hazards to public health. Waste collection is conducted in any extreme weather circumstances as long as safety is not an issue. Not only does the Division assist in local efforts, but Mayor Linda Gorton has committed to helping other regions of Kentucky when severe weather hits. The Division assisted in multiple cleanup efforts in 2021 alone; the Division assisted in Carlisle in August 2021 when damaging floods occurred. The Division also sent five employees with two knuckleboom trucks to assist for a week after unprecedented tornadoes hit Western Kentucky in December 2021.

**Great American City -** The Division of Waste Management is working closely with Lexington's Downtown Development Authority, the Downtown Management District and the Parking Authority as part of revitalization efforts and the further development of Town Branch. This coordinated effort is all part of Lexington's initiative to be a Great American City. New and innovative approaches to waste collection are part of a continuous improvement effort. Waste and recycling efforts have been incorporated into the overall design and development of the Town Branch Trail.

2b. Attach a signed and dated copy of the current solid waste management ordinance(s) including all related amendments. Place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "**Chapter 2 Attachments.**"

3. Describe your annual waste hauler registration process including the annual requirement to file reports:

All waste haulers who operate in the county must register annually with Lexington. This registration is required each year in coordination with KRS 224.43-315 Sections 2 & 3 and the collection of data organized through state and local solid waste annual reporting requirements.

KRS 224.43-315 Sections 2 & 3 states:

(2) Beginning October 1, 2003, all persons providing collection service, including collection for the purpose of recycling, shall register annually with the counties in which they provide the service.

(3) Beginning March 1, 2004, all persons providing collection service, including collection for the purpose of recycling, shall report annually to the counties in which they provide the service.

The reports shall include:

- (a) The number of households, businesses, and industries from which municipal solid waste was being collected on October 1 of the previous year;
- (b) The amount of municipal solid waste collected for disposal during the previous calendar year;
- (c) The amount of municipal solid waste collected for recycling, by volume, weight, or number of items during the previous calendar year; and
- (d) The types of items collected for recycling.

The Division of Waste Management contacts all haulers annually to submit the "Municipal Solid Waste Collector and Recycler Registration and Report Form," which is then included with Lexington's annual submission of the Fayette County Solid Waste Annual report. The valuable data received through the annual registration process helps Lexington analyze overall collection operations and provide up to date statistics for the county's solid waste collection system as a whole. This helps in overall planning efforts for future endeavors, as well as the Five Year Plan, updated every five years in accordance with Kentucky state law.

## B. Collection System Strengths

Describe the strengths of your collection system:

**Stable Funding Source** – Lexington has a stable funding source for waste collection. Funding for solid waste collection services is included in the ad valorem property tax. Each household or business that receives city collection services pays an ad valorem .1423 cents on each \$100 of the assessed value of the property, according to the Fayette County Property Valuation Administrator and Lexington city ordinance. There is also a tax collected for the monthly disposal fee. The Landfill Fund is financed through the \$4.50 monthly fee assessed to each household or commercial business receiving city cart collection services. Monthly dumpster collection fees for businesses and apartments are also included in this fund, which range by dumpster size from \$24.10 per month for a 4-yard unit, \$36.15 per month for a 6-yard unit, and \$48.20 per month for an 8-yard dumpster unit. Extra dump fees are \$50 per extra service per dumpster unit.

**Equipment** – The Division of Waste Management has an established replacement schedule based on lifecycle analysis, for the purchase of equipment such as new waste carts and CNG-powered collection trucks, for city collection. A stable funding source for solid waste collections allows Lexington to have an aggressive maintenance and replacement system for carts and equipment, to deliver the highest level of customer service to Lexington residents and businesses.

**Comprehensive Service for Lexington's Collection Area** - Lexington provides a comprehensive waste collection service to all customers. The services are offered at no extra cost to customers and include:

- **Appliance Collection** – Appliances (including Freon containing appliances) are collected weekly at the curb or upon request, and recycled.
- **Weekly and Bi-weekly Waste Collection** – Residential customers receive curbside collection of up to three, 95-gallon carts once per week for household waste, recyclables, and yard waste. Business roll carts and dumpsters receive collection, twice weekly.
- **Tire Collection** – Residents may place up to 4 tires (off the rim) per month at the curb for collection.
- **Dead Animal Pickup** - Dead animals are picked up at the curb, or on streets in Lexington's service area.
- **Bulky Item Collection** – Items that will not fit in waste carts, such as furniture and extra bagged waste, are collected once a week on the collection day.
- **Mattress Collection** – Mattresses and sofa beds are collected from the curb weekly.
- **Exempt Collection** – Residents that have a physical or medical limitation that prevents from being able to roll landfill-bound and/or recycling carts to the street receive collection of the carts from the side of the residence.
- **Recycling Collection** – The recycling program is a voluntary program. Curbside collection is provided once per week. A cart is provided to each participating household.
- **Yard Waste Collection** – The yard waste recycling program is a voluntary program. Curbside collection is provided once per week. A cart and/or coupons for free 30-gallon brown paper bags are provided to each participating household.
- **Vacuum-leaf Collection** – Residents can rake their leaves to the curb for collection by a vacuum truck once a year, in the fall.
- **Commercial Services** – Commercial service includes landfill-bound and recycling dumpster services, and landfill-bound and recycling carts are serviced twice per week. Dumpster services are provided twice per week.

**Private Hauling Companies** – Private haulers offer services that are similar to city waste collection service programs. Private haulers offer recycling services, bulky items, and appliance collection, for a fee. Private haulers also offer a variety of services to businesses and commercial entities, such as trash and recycling dumpsters, trash and cardboard compactors and construction waste collection.

**Universal Collection** – Lexington adopted universal collection in 1994. This system ensures access to solid waste collection for all citizens. Collection is provided through either city collection, private collection or disposal opportunities at the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station. Fayette County has over a 98% collection rate.

**Mandatory Residential Collection** – In its collection areas, Lexington provides a roll cart container services to every residential property currently within the urban service district or partial district. Lexington provides roll cart containers for each unit containing kitchen facilities, for multi-unit residential property types with seven or less attached units. Any multi-unit property with more than seven units, dumpster service is required.

Waste Characterization Studies – Lexington conducts studies to assess how existing programs and education efforts are performing, identify areas of strength, and note potential growth opportunities. These studies take a close look at waste that is collected, sorted, and categorized into 50 different types of materials. The study typically analyzes 50 random samples, providing Lexington with a clear picture of what percentage of recyclables, compostables, electronics, hazardous wastes, etc. ends up in the landfill-bound waste stream.

**C. Collection System Weaknesses**

Describe the weaknesses of your collection system:

Lack of Franchise Agreements with Private Haulers – Private haulers are not required to enter into a franchise agreement or any other type of agreement to collect solid waste in Lexington. Therefore, Lexington has little control over private hauler operations, the fees they charge, services they offer or enforcement jurisdiction.

Ordinances and Policies – All residential customers in new subdivisions continue to be placed in the urban services area and automatically receive city waste collection. Sometimes, new streets are not large enough for the standard collection trucks. This requires collection services to continually expand services, optimize routes, etc.

Lower unemployment rates have created a challenging job market and workforce. It is difficult to recruit drivers and have enough staff to cover the growing needs of the city. Waste Management will continue to do more with less.

**D. Collection System Implementation Schedule**

List a detailed account of specific actions or projects the governing body will complete to maintain or improve the collection system, the frequency at which such actions will take place, a date for commencement of the activities and a date at which the activities will cease. **Include educational efforts.**

Specific Actions	Frequency	Month/ Year to Begin	Month/ Year to End
1.) Explore new and innovative methods of collection in Lexington. As Lexington grows, the needs for waste collection and diversion will continue to be assessed as needed. Includes the possibility of an expanded recycling collection program, innovative and efficient ways to service congested areas, special events collection, and increased residential customer base as new homes are added. Lexington will employ all methods of outreach to spread the news of any new system or type of collection.	As needed	1/2023	12/2027
2.) Conversion of Division of Waste Management's fleet to CNG-powered vehicles. Updating parking structures and fuel capabilities to assist with the goal. Build additional truck and inventory shelters to increase storage capacity to better maintain vehicles. Implement RFID inventory system to help with increased control over operations.	Annually	1/2023	12/2027
3.) Support the continuous improvement of Lexington's automated routing software system (Routeware). Increase efficiency by improving data collection and outfitting all new and existing trucks with Routeware hardware. The Division of Waste Management will perform training to all new employees on the system and will keep employees updated on changes or improvements to the software in the future. A training station is kept in the employee training area to support education efforts.	As new trucks and employees are added	1/2023	12/2027
4.) Develop a franchise/private hauler agreement. Make a convenience center available to residents year-round (Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station). Increase awareness of the ability for the public to dump at the transfer facility year-round using all available avenues. Continue to offer recycling drop off sites throughout Lexington, especially in areas that do not receive residential city recycling collection.	Annually	1/2023	12/2027



5.) Address any needs on ordinances by working with City Council. Address collection issues with new developments. Ensure new developments are built in a way that allows for efficient waste collection. Retain petition process for areas to opt in to city waste services. The Environmental Hearing Commission will hear appeals concerning development plans and the terms of collection. Education will be performed as needed with those involved, working with developers and new residents.	As needed	1/2023	12/2027
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**3. DISPOSAL SYSTEM**

**A. Disposal System**

1. Provide SWMA population and municipal solid waste disposal projections for five (5), ten (10), and twenty (20) years in the future.

Population 2020: 333,580	Population 2025: 354,318	Population 2033: 386,575
Waste Generation Projection 2018 – 2022: 2,129,771 Tons	Waste Generation Projection 2023 – 2027: 2,262,174 Tons	Waste Generation Projection 2028 – 2037: 4,936,243 Tons

2. List all contained landfills, including out-of-state landfills that will be used by your governing body during the 5-year update period. Provide capacity assurance letters demonstrating a minimum of 10 years of capacity from the landfill(s) and copies of any contractual agreements with those disposal facilities. Place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "Chapter 3 Attachments."

1.) Landfill Name: Morehead Landfill/Local Sanitation of Rowan Co. LLC	Permit #:103-00007
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Address: 300 Old Phelps Road

City: Morehead	State: KY	Zip Code: 40351
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2.) Landfill Name:	Permit #:
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Address:

City:	State:	Zip Code:
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3.) Landfill Name:	Permit #:
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Address:

City:	State:	Zip Code:
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3. Provide a complete inventory of all disposal facilities currently operating in your SWMA. Facilities to include are: contained landfills, construction/demolition debris landfills greater than one acre, incinerators or other technologies that accept municipal solid waste and medical waste incinerators that accept medical waste from other sources.

1.) Facility Name: Thoroughbred Landfill/Disposal LLC	Ownership: Waste Services of the Bluegrass
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Address: 4179 Hedger Lane

City: Lexington	State: KY	Zip Code: 40516
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Cost to users: \$45.00 (\$/Ton)	Life expectancy: 1.25 Million Tons, 2.5 Years
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Level of compliance with state and federal laws: In compliance

2.) Facility Name: Haley Pike Waste Management Facility Compost Pad (yard waste disposal)
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Address: 4216 Hedger Lane	Ownership: Lexington Fayette Urban County Government
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City: Lexington

Cost to users: \$28.00 (\$/Ton)	State: KY	Zip Code: 40516
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Level of compliance with state and federal laws: In compliance

Life expectancy: N/A Years
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3.) Facility Name: Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station
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Address: 1505 Old Frankfort Pike	Ownership: Lexington Fayette Urban County Government
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City: Lexington

Cost to users: \$ 98 (\$/Ton)	State: KY	Zip Code: 40504
Level of compliance with state and federal laws: In compliance		Life expectancy: N/A Years
4. SWMA's hosting a landfill must complete question 4. All other SWMA's may proceed to question 5.		
4a. Identify the following for each contained solid waste disposal facility hosted in your SWMA:		
Landfill:	Permit #:	
Total capacity authorized to date:	Tons	
Amount disposed in landfill to date:	Tons	
Remaining authorized capacity: 0.00 Tons		
<p>5. Describe any proposal(s) for new disposal facilities or expansions of existing disposal facilities (landfill, incinerators, or other approved technologies, etc.) planned during the 5-year update period:</p> <p>No new disposal facilities are proposed at this time.</p> <p>Transfer Station and Disposal Agreement – As of 2022, Lexington has an agreement with Waste Services of the Bluegrass to manage the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station and provide hauling and disposal services for Lexington. This agreement has been in place since July 1, 2015.</p> <p>Capacity Assurance - Waste Services of the Bluegrass guaranteed at least ten years of capacity assurance in 2015, when the disposal agreement was originated. After the closing of the Central Kentucky Landfill, Waste Services of the Bluegrass began hauling Lexington's municipal solid waste to one of the backup disposal sites in Morehead, Kentucky.</p> <p>Thoroughbred Disposal - It is anticipated that WSB will apply for a horizontal expansion of this CD&amp;D landfill to increase the permitted volume of the landfill by 2,000,000 cubic yards of airspace. This additional airspace is anticipated to add 15 years to the life of the site.</p>		
<p>6. Describe the county's emergency disaster plan to address solid waste concerns in the event of natural disasters (flooding, snow/ice storms, tornadoes, earthquakes, etc.):</p> <p>Lexington's Emergency Disaster Plan – Lexington maintains an official Emergency Disaster Plan that includes the roles, responsibilities and actions to be taken by city departments and cooperating private agencies during severe weather events. The Emergency Operations Center is a coordinated effort to enact response and recovery operations during a major weather event. The Division of Waste Management is heavily involved in activities such as snow removal as it is needed in ice and snow events, as well as servicing shelters and hospitals during heavy storms.</p> <p>Training Pad Temporary Usage – Lexington's Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works is permitted to utilize the old landfill pad on Old Frankfort Pike for staging centralized yard debris collection in the event of severe weather. This allows for the most efficient collection of yard debris by the department in order to keep the city safe and clear of hazardous debris materials.</p> <p>The disaster preparedness plan also includes coordination with the Bluegrass Army Depot in the event of emergencies needing the assistance of the Division.</p>		
<p>7. Describe plans to research alternative approaches to solid waste management:</p> <p>Alternative Approaches – For alternative approaches to solid waste management, Lexington takes a multifaceted approach. Some forms include:</p> <p>Training, Education and Industry Knowledge – The Division regularly attends state and national waste conferences and visits facilities in other cities to stay up to date on best practices. This broadens knowledge and expertise to ensure that staff remains current on the industry's current challenges and trends. On a rotational basis, management staff within Lexington's Division of Waste Management attend the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) annual conference, the "Waste Expo" annual solid waste, recycling and organics industry event, National Safety Council events and the Municipal Solid Waste Management Association affiliated with the United States Conference of Mayors communications and events. The Director of Waste Management/Solid Waste Coordinator currently serves as Vice President of the Bluegrass Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), as well as serving as an Executive Board Member of the Municipal Solid Waste Management Association. These opportunities allow greater access to exchange information with peer cities across the country, knowledge of potential funding opportunities and valuable educational opportunities for city staff. The Division is also a member of the Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition and participates as a board member as well. Diversion efforts are heavily promoted throughout the county, such as the curbside recycling and yard waste programs, as well as paper shred and household hazardous waste collection events.</p> <p>Expansion of Recyclable Materials – In addition to the current residential collection of standard recyclable materials, yard waste collection, and the drop-off program for unwanted electronics, the Division of Waste Management is constantly researching how to feasibly increasing the numbers and types of materials diverted to expand the region's recycling collection options. Lexington recently added a new piece of sorting machinery to the recycling facility that will allow for a new material type, aseptic cartons, to be added to the list of items to be accepted in the comingled recycling mix. In addition, Lexington is currently considering the expansion of the recycling program to include plastics 3-7.</p> <p>Composting Diversion Efforts – The Division of Waste Management is considering a variety of options for diversion of additional waste, such as organic yard waste and certain food material composting on a residential level. Periodically, Lexington offers free composting workshops to encourage residents to compost at home. Additionally, Lexington City Council will hire a consultant in Fall 2022 to review digester feasibility.</p>		

## **B. Disposal Practices Strengths.**

Describe the strengths of your existing disposal practices:

**Dedicated Funding Source** – Lexington has a dedicated funding source for waste disposal, the Landfill Fund, which is financed through the \$4.50 monthly fee assessed to each household or commercial business receiving city cart collection services. Monthly dumpster collection fees for businesses and apartments are also included in this fund, which range by dumpster size from \$24.10 per month for a 4-yard unit, \$36.15 per month for a 6-yard unit, and \$48.20 per month for an 8-yard dumpster unit. Extra dump fees are \$50 per extra service per dumpster unit.

**Comprehensive Approach** – Lexington's current programs and goals are designed to work towards a comprehensive approach to waste management, considering alternative approaches when they can benefit overall operations and efficiency.

**Fleet Maintenance** – Lexington maintains a regular replacement schedule for all fleet vehicles and equipment using life cycle analyses. The management system in place ensures continual maintenance and replacements when cost-effective. Lexington has a Division of Fleet Services, which employs certified technicians and is located adjacent to the Division of Waste Management's fleet of vehicles.

**Ownership and Operation of Recycling Facility** – Lexington owns and operates a regional Materials Recovery Facility. Benefits include marketing materials to local vendors and maintaining relationships with affiliates and recyclers to further recycling material diversion throughout the region. Smaller communities and municipalities have the option of partnering with Lexington and share the cost of processing commingled material and the revenue earned from marketing sorted material based on total volume. With this management system, partner affiliates are able to offer recycling options where they otherwise would not have the ability to collect and/or process recyclables for an end market.

**Ownership of Compost Facility** – Lexington owns the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility's compost processing pad. Lexington offers a drop off yard waste option for residents and businesses. Residents may dump yard waste material up to two times per month at no cost; commercial businesses may utilize the drop off facility for a fee.

**Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station -**

a. **Ownership of Facility** – Lexington owns the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station and contracts with a certified vendor to run daily operations at the facility. This agreement offers a low-cost disposal option for Lexington.

b. **Convenience of Location** - The transfer station is located about one mile from the Waste Management operations base office. This means minimal travel time between unloading and returning to base, where all collection vehicles are stored and in the case of CNG-powered vehicles, are also fueled. Because the area at the transfer station where collection trucks unload is paved, unlike the unloading area at the landfill, the wear and tear on tires has been significantly reduced.

c. **Low and Consistent Landfill Tipping Fees** - The competitive bidding of the disposal of Lexington's municipal solid waste provides a low disposal rate.

d. **Disposal Options and Opportunities** - Lexington's ownership of this disposal facility allows for opportunities to offer free quarterly disposal, in coordination with the contracted vendor.

e. **Maintained Permit** – Lexington maintains a permit for construction of a new contained landfill cell at the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility landfill site that is good for an additional 6.7 years of air space. This permit can also be modified to construct a C & D cell; in the event a C & D diversion program can be instituted, the air space in this permitted cell can be extended for several additional years. Maintaining the permit for a new cell provides Lexington with a degree of flexibility in long-term planning. This allows Lexington to also benefit from favorable disposal market conditions.

**Alternative Disposal Events** - Lexington offers various disposal events to Lexington residents at no additional cost to them. Throughout the year, the Division of Waste Management offers events that make it easy and safe to dispose of hazardous items at bi-annual hazardous collection events or data-sensitive items at bi-annual Paper Shred events. Lexington also offers advice on additional items that are typically more difficult to dispose of or recycle correctly.

**C. Disposal Practices Weaknesses.**

Describe the weaknesses of your existing disposal practices:

Waste Characterization Studies – The results of past county-wide waste characterization studies have shown a notable volume of both recyclable and compostable materials are being sent to the landfill that could otherwise be diverted.

Siting - Lexington has the ability to adapt its landfill permit to accept municipal solid waste at the Haley Pike Facility. However, this would be a significant change since this requires a change to the permit, additional well testing and monitoring, and ultimately more material for daily cover, which we do not have available at present. Lexington negotiates operation of the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station and disposal of waste. There is not an overabundance of locations to site another landfill.

**D. Disposal Implementation Schedule**

List a detailed account of specific actions or projects the governing body will complete to maintain or improve its disposal system, the frequency at which such actions will take place, a date for commencement of the activities, and a date at which the activities will cease. **Include educational efforts.**

Specific Actions	Frequency	Month/ Year to Begin	Month/ Year to End
1.) Explore new markets for hard-to-dispose-of items such as sharps and infectious waste, metal items, mattresses, construction and demolition debris, additional bulky items, and plastics 3-7 recyclable items in order to divert from area landfills. Continue working closely with state, local and industry contacts to explore alternate methods of disposal of such items, and other potential partnerships.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
2.) Continue the frequent offering of disposal and recycling opportunities at no cost to residents such as paper shred events and hazardous waste collection events. Update outreach to include hard-to-dispose-of items. Work with partner organizations such as Habitat for Humanity to encourage re-use where possible, for items such as salvagable furniture or paint.	Bi-annually	01/2023	12/2027
3.) Work with managing vendor of the Bluegrass Regional Transfer Station to provide Lexington residents with high quality, easy disposal options (i.e. Quarterly Free Disposal Days). Work with all possible entities to make proper waste disposal and diversion as easy and accessible as possible to residents and businesses. Promote disposal opportunities throughout the county on a regular basis.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
4) Continue to aide nearby communities across Kentucky in the event of severe weather events and emergencies. Continue utilization of the centrally-located Waste Management Training Pad as a community drop off site for yard debris during emergency weather events. Utilize emergency contracts for special equipment when needed to clean up after severe weather events.	As needed	01/2023	12/2027
5) Pursue valuable data through implementation of waste characterization studies to improve programs and outreach focus. Develop methods of advertising community events and services that are cost-effective. Continue utilizing data collected from various projects to help improve and update overall operations.	Annually	01/2023	12/2027
6) Explore additional industry training options for management staff to seek knowledge of comparable municipalities and best practices. Share education and knowledge learned with supervisors and whenever beneficial to improving operations and efficiency.	Annually	01/2023	12/2027

**4. RECYCLING AND REDUCTION**

**A. Recycling/Reduction Program**

1. Is recycling offered in your SWMA?  Yes  No

2. Describe your SWMA's annual recycler registration process including the annual requirements to file reports:

All recyclers operating in the county must register annually with Lexington. This registration is required each year in coordination with KRS 224.43-315 Sections 2 & 3 and the collection of data organized through state and local solid waste annual reporting and registration requirements.

KRS 224.43-315 Sections 2 & 3:

(2) Beginning October 1, 2003, all persons providing collection service, including collection for the purpose of recycling, shall register annually with the counties in which they provide the service.

(3) Beginning March 1, 2004, all persons providing collection service, including collection for the purpose of recycling, shall report annually to the counties in which they provide the service.

The reports shall include:

- (a) The number of households, businesses, and industries from which municipal solid waste was being collected on October 1 of the previous year;
- (b) The amount of municipal solid waste collected for disposal during the previous calendar year;
- (c) The amount of municipal solid waste collected for recycling, by volume, weight, or number of items during the previous calendar year; and
- (d) The types of items collected for recycling.

The Division of Waste Management contacts all recycling haulers annually to submit the "Municipal Solid Waste Collector and Recycler Registration and Report Form," which is then included with Lexington's annual submission of the Fayette County Solid Waste Annual report. The valuable data received through the annual registration process helps Lexington analyze overall collection operations and provide up to date statistics for the county's solid waste collection system as a whole. This helps in overall planning efforts for future endeavors as well as the Five Year Plan, updated every five years in accordance with Kentucky state law.

3. Do you have a plan to reduce the need for land disposal of yard waste?  Yes  No  
If yes, describe:

In 1999, Lexington began offering curbside yard waste collection to all residents receiving city collection. This program was established in order to divert organic yard waste material from the landfill, repurposing the material as nutrient-rich mulch. Participating residents receive a 95-gallon cart that is picked up once per week alongside weekly trash, recycling and bulky items pickup. Included in the yard waste collection program are tree limbs, leaves, any plant clippings and grass clippings. Ineligible items include rocks, dirt and mulch. Residents may also redeem coupons at area stores for 30-gallon paper yard waste bags, which are also collected year-round on the weekly collection day at no additional cost to residents. Bundled limbs may be placed at the curb for weekly collection.

Operation of Compost Facility and Mulch Giveaways – Lexington owns the Haley Pike Waste Management Composting Facility and contracts with a private vendor responsible for processing all collected organic materials. The vendor is responsible for daily operation and management of the facility to create reusable mulch material. A portion of the resulting mulch is offered back to citizens at no cost at giveaway events to be used in Lexington yards or gardens.

Vacuum Leaf Collection – Lexington's Division of Streets & Roads conducts vacuum leaf collection during the fall for all properties in the Urban Services District. Material collected is processed at the composting pad at the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility.

Lexington does not have an official ban on yard waste in the landfill-bound waste; however, yard waste is not listed as an approved item that can be placed in the green curbside waste container.

Composting workshops promote do-it-yourself backyard composting efforts.

4. Does your SWMA collect or manage yard waste for the purpose of diverting it from a landfill?  Yes  No

5. List the counties and cities within your SWMA that collect or manage yard waste for the purpose of diverting it from the landfill?

Lexington-Fayette County	

6. List all permitted composting operations currently operating in your SWMA. If no composting operation exists, detail any actions your SWMA plans to take to encourage composting:

Haley Pike Composting Facility – Lexington owns its composting facility, which takes yard waste from the city collection program, other city departments, the city's annual vacuum-leaf collection program, local landscaping companies and citizen drop-off. The facility is located at the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility.

Yard Waste Transfer Site - Lexington has developed a centrally-located transfer site for yard waste to be dumped by city trucks.

C&R Mulch - Accepts yard debris for a fee.

7. Describe your plan to reduce the need for land disposal through recycling, reuse and waste reduction (include drop off centers, curbside collection, interlocal agreements for regional alliances, etc.)

Since 1989, Lexington has had a curbside recycling collection program, using a blue recycling roll cart. As of 2022, over 78,500 households subscribed to city curbside recycling collection out of the 98,000 total eligible residences. The 95-gallon, 65-gallon roll cart, personal container or additional bagged or stacked recycling material is serviced once per week, alongside the trash, yard waste and bulky pickup.

Lexington owns and operates a regional recycling facility that serves not only Lexington residents and businesses but also Central Kentucky Affiliate Partners. Lexington opened the facility in 1992 and accepts commingled recycling materials for processing. The facility is a significant asset to recycling efforts in the Central Kentucky region, and it is unique in that it is the only municipally owned and operated facility of its kind in the state and surrounding region.

In June 2010, Lexington converted to a single-stream recycling collection program when the Lexington Recycling Center went through a significant upgrade and expansion. During this upgrade period, the Bollegraf system was replaced with a \$3.5 million Machinex single-stream system. Major changes included incorporation of optical sorters for plastics, several walking-floor bunkers, a new Steinart elliptical eddy current sorter, and expansion of the tip floor. The system upgrade increased production capacity from less than 11 tons/hour to 24 tons/hour. Tonnage processed has increased steadily since the conversion. The facility processes 24,000 to 36,000 tons of material each year.

In 2021 and the first quarter of 2022, Lexington completed over \$4.2 million in capital improvements to the facility and equipment upgrades. These upgrades allow Lexington residents as well as Central Kentucky affiliate partners to expand recycling initiatives in the region and improve the quality of recyclables processed for commodity sales. Upgrades included: two ballistic separators, which improved material separation and paper commodity quality while reducing residue and increasing recovered volume; a new optical sorter for fiber cleanup, eliminating most hand sorting and the ability to achieve more stringent market specifications; a glass breaker to remove glass out of the system earlier in the process while reducing down time and wear and tear on equipment; OCC screen replacement to reduce plastic wrapping and the labor cost to remove lodged materials; as well as refurbishment of the infed conveyor line. Additionally, Lexington received grant funding from the Carton Council of North America to support the purchase of the facility's new optical sorter as part of the 2021-22 facility upgrades. Through this partnership and with the addition of the new machinery, Lexington is now able to process cartons (i.e. milk, soup or orange juice cartons) in the commingled recycling program. This has now increased the volume of material diverted from the landfill. Lexington's Regional Recycling Facility now produces cleaner, high quality recyclables for the end market.

Lexington maintains agreements with various cities, counties and entities to accept and process recycling materials on their behalf. This allows for an opportunity for smaller communities near Lexington to offer recycling to residents and businesses where a recycling facility is not located. Affiliates share in revenue earned from the sale of recyclables, guaranteed through their agreement with the city. Lexington accepts material from over 15 regional affiliates. Affiliates share marketing, processing, trash and glass fees. As of 2021, data shows that 45% of inbound recyclable material came from neighboring communities.

**Paper Collection Solutions** - In response to providing paper collection services after the national paper market changes in 2018, Lexington installed seven yellow paper-only collection dumpsters in 2020. Through this source-separation, 531 tons of clean paper were collected from Lexington residents in 2021 alone, creating cleaner material and resulting in a significant increase in the average market price when blended with sorted office paper the recycling center has continued to receive throughout this period. Since the beginning of yellow paper collection dumpster placements in 2020, total tonnage has resulted in over 1,100 tons of clean paper collection recycling. Lexington continues to offer comingled recycling drop off at 15 different locations throughout Lexington, in addition to the source-separated yellow paper collection bins.

**Recycling Convenience Options** - Lexington offers 15 locations throughout the county where residents can drop off comingled recyclable materials at no cost. Many of the sites are available and accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Lexington offers these drop sites to encourage recycling from all residents, especially those that may not wish to pay an additional collection fee to receive curbside service from private haulers.

**Appliance Collection** - Since 1992, when freon-containing appliances were banned from landfills, Lexington has offered separate curbside collection and removal of freon at no cost to residents receiving city collection services. Appliances, including stoves, washers, dryers, refrigerators, ovens, and water heaters, are collected and delivered to a local scrap dealer. Environmental Recycling is willing to take these appliances and recycle them. Fayette County residents can also drop off appliances and empty propane tanks, free of charge, at Environmental Recycling's Lexington location.

**Downtown Collection** - In August of 1996, separate collection of cardboard was initiated in the downtown business district. This service has since been expanded to the collection all recyclables. The service is provided by the Division of Waste Management six days a week from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., and from 2 a.m. to 10 a.m. The downtown area is serviced with a split-body truck that can simultaneously collect landfill-bound waste and recyclable materials while keeping them separated.

**Business Recycling Services** - Lexington offers recycling collection services to businesses and commercial entities within the Urban Service District. Collection is done through curbside roll carts or recycling dumpsters. Business recycling roll carts are serviced once a week and recycling dumpsters are serviced twice a week.

**Comingled Recycling Dumpster Program** - In early 2012, Lexington began a comingled recycling dumpster program, where schools, businesses, and other large producers of recyclables are offered comingled recycling dumpster service where eligible. Entities are required to go through a dumpster permitting process which includes submission of an educational plan ensuring the training of staff on proper recycling practices. This requirement helps to avoid the issue of contamination.

**Live Green Lexington Program** - Since 2006, Lexington has collaborated with Bluegrass Greensource in developing an outreach and education program targeting schools, businesses, and apartments. The program was first known as the WasteBusters Program, and was changed to be known as the Live Green Lexington Program in 2010. The Live Green Lexington Program helps schools, apartments and businesses start or expand their recycling efforts. More than 150 schools participate in the program, including all Fayette County Public Schools, as well as over 300 businesses and over 150 apartment complexes.

Private Hauler Residential Recycling – Private haulers that service Lexington residents offer their customers single-stream, curbside residential recycling. They may also choose to take the material to the Lexington Recycling Facility for processing.

Electronics Recycling Center – Lexington's Division of Waste Management has an Electronics Recycling Center at 1306 Versailles Road. This is a free drop-off recycling center available to Fayette County residents. The facility accepts: computers, printers, copiers, handheld games, cell phones and other communication devices, microwave ovens, televisions and monitors, CDs, DVDs and their cases, audio and video players/equipment, small corded electrical items (such as toasters, hair dryers, or radios), holiday lights and extension cords, fluorescent light tubes (no CFLs), MP3 players, PDAs, laptops and electronic tablets, and household batteries (no automotive/lead-acid batteries accepted). The center is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays, from noon to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

Event Recycling – Lexington's Division of Waste Management assists local, public events held within city limits by providing recycling containers and waste collection services when needed. A variety of container options are offered, including dual stream wire units, single stream wire units and roll carts. Since 2008, Lexington has had an ordinance requiring recycling to be available at events of more than 300 people, when the events are on city property. (Ordinance Sec. 16-6.1, Ordinance No. 134-2008)

Paint Reuse Program – In partnership with Lexington Habitat for Humanity, Fayette County residents are encouraged to take unwanted latex paint to the Lexington Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Habitat for Humanity staff and volunteers mix the paint, creating a variety of different colors. The paint is then sold at a discount price, ensuring its reuse and benefiting Habitat for Humanity in Central Kentucky.

Paper Shred Events – In a partnership with Shred-it, a division of Stericycle, Lexington's Division of Waste Management offers free shredding services for Fayette County residents. The service provides a wonderful opportunity twice per year for residents to bring up to five boxes of sensitive materials to be safely shredded. Lexington recycles cardboard boxes at each event, and Shred-it recycles the shredded material into low-grade paper products such as toilet tissue or paper towels.

Tire Amnesty Events – Lexington fully participates in the state tire amnesty program, making free tire drop off and recycling available to all Fayette County residents, city departments, and most business owners at the events. Fayette County's last tire amnesty was held in the fall of 2021, and the next tire amnesty will likely be held in the fall of 2024.

Gobble Grease Toss – Once a year, the Friday following the Thanksgiving holiday, Lexington's Waste Management and Environmental Services divisions offer residents a way to dispose of cooking oil from frying a turkey. The city partners with Bluegrass Greensource and an educational institution, which agrees to accept the oil for reuse or learning projects. Through hosting this annual event, oil is reused or recycled instead of going into the landfill-bound waste cart or Lexington's sewer system.

Med Toss Events – Periodically, the Lexington Police Department, in partnership with Kentucky American Water, the Office of the Fayette County Sheriff and Drug Free Lex, offers a medicine take-back day, where residents can drop off any unused or expired medicine (prescribed or over the counter), for proper disposal at no cost. This program is part of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration's Medicine Take Back Program.

Permanent Medicine Drop Off Boxes – Lexington hosts two medicine drop off locations available year-round for any unused or expired medications needing to be properly disposed. The locations of the two drop off boxes are: Lexington Police Department's main office located at 150 E Main Street and the Fayette County Sheriff's Office located at 150 N Limestone.

Lexington's Yard Waste Program - In the spring of 1999, Lexington began offering yard waste collection to all of the residents in city collection areas to divert organic yard waste material from the landfill. Residents receive a 95-gallon cart and coupons biannually that can be redeemed at area stores for 30-gallon paper yard waste bags. Yard waste is collected once per week and the collected material is taken to the compost facility at the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility.

Holiday Tree Recycling Program – Lexington's Division of Waste Management collects natural holiday trees and natural wreathes, gardens and gourds. Each year since 1990, Lexington has provided free collection of whole trees after the holiday season concludes. Trees are hauled to the composting facility to be mulched alongside other yard waste material. The Division also accepts pumpkins and gourds in the curbside collection program, which are treated as yard waste materials and composted after the fall holiday season.

Vacuum Leaf Collection Program - Residents of Fayette County who receive city waste collection service also receive curbside vacuum-leaf service every fall season. Streets & Roads crews service neighborhoods with specialized vacuum-equipped trucks to collect leaves that have been raked onto the curb or easement. Each neighborhood receives one pass on their streets. Lexington has the ability to notify affected residents through an alert system. Collected materials are taken to the composting facility for processing.

Landscaping Companies and Business Drop-off – Yard and landscaping companies may drop off material at the composting facility at the Haley Pike Waste Management facility, for a fee.

Yard Waste Drop-Off (Public) – Lexington provides a staffed yard waste drop-off center for Fayette County residents at the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility. Residents who do not have curbside yard waste collection available to them may utilize the facility for drop off; residents who have curbside collection, but have additional needs, may also utilize the facility. Lexington allows Fayette County residents to drop off up to two loads of material, free of charge, per month. The hours for the drop off facility are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The facility is closed on Wednesdays and the other Saturdays of the month. Personnel are available to assist residents during public drop off hours.

Composting Workshops – Beginning in 2011, Lexington's Waste Management began offering periodic workshops for residents on how to start and maintain a home composting system. The purpose of these workshops is to encourage interested residents to handle their own yard waste and some food scraps, and help reduce the amount of that material going to the landfill or the composting facility. All participants receive a kitchen composting container to help in their homes. The Fayette County Cooperative Extension Office has been a partner in this effort.

8. If recycling is deemed not feasible, provide specific details supporting that decision: N/A

9. Describe how used motor oil, batteries, and antifreeze are handled in your SWMA:

Used Oil and Oil Filters – Internally, motor oil is recycled by Lexington’s Division of Fleet Services. Fleet Services also recycles auto batteries and antifreeze.

Fayette County residents may take their used motor oil year-round to different collection sites, at no charge, in a non-leak, disposable container. To dispose of used oil filters, the oil should be drained out of the filter for a minimum of 48 hours. Once empty, oil filters can be disposed of with regular trash. Drained motor oil can be collected and taken for recycling to any hazardous waste collection event. Used oil is also accepted at select Lexington auto stores, but there may be a fee for disposal.

Rechargeable Batteries - Fayette County residents can drop off rechargeable batteries at Lexington’s Electronics Recycling Center for recycling. Rechargeable batteries are also accepted at any hazardous waste collection event.

Non-recyclable Alkaline Batteries – A, AA, AAA, C and D batteries can safely be disposed of in the regular trash, or they are also accepted at the Electronics Recycling Facility. Alkaline batteries are also accepted at any hazardous waste collection event.

Lead Acid Batteries - Lead acid batteries used in cars/trucks, boats, motorcycles, and lawn mowers must be recycled. Spent (used) batteries can in some cases be returned to the supplier, or they can be dropped off at any hazardous waste collection event.

Antifreeze - Fayette County residents may drop off antifreeze at any hazardous waste collection event.

All of the materials may be saved by residential customers and brought to annual hazardous waste collection events at no cost, where they will be safely disposed (and recycled when feasible).

10. Describe how household hazardous waste is handled in your SWMA:

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events - Lexington hosts hazardous materials collection events for all residents on a bi-annual basis. The fall household hazardous waste collection events are supported through grant funding from Kentucky’s Division of Waste Management to help divert these materials from the regular landfill-bound waste stream. Divisional funding supports an additional drop off event in the spring. The Division contracts with an approved hazardous waste disposal vendor, who is instructed to recycle or reuse materials whenever possible.

Year-round Disposal Information – Lexington maintains an informational, interactive series of webpages that contains helpful information to residents throughout the year on safe disposal options available to them for the most common household hazardous waste.

Grant Funding Available - The Division of Waste Management has applied for and received funding for an event to be held during the 2023 fiscal year.

11. Are electronics/computers recycled in your SWMA?  Yes  No

11a. If yes, describe your electronics/computer (e-scrap) recycling program:

Electronics Recycling Facility – Lexington owns and operates a year-round Electronics Recycling Center at 1306 Versailles Road. This drop-off facility is managed by the Division of Waste Management and is open to all Fayette County residents. Items accepted include: computers, printers, copiers, handheld games, cell phones and other communication devices, microwave ovens, televisions and monitors, CDs, DVDs and their cases, audio and video players/equipment, small corded electrical items (such as toasters, hair dryers, or radios), holiday lights and extension cords, fluorescent light tubes (no CFLs), MP3 players, PDAs, laptops and electronic tablets, and household batteries (no automotive/lead-acid batteries accepted). The center is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesdays, from noon to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

Lexington maintains a contract with an r2 certified e-scrap recycler to ensure the secure and regulated recycling of the electronics collected. Materials collected at this facility are sent to a qualified and certified vendor for recycling.

Social Services Electronics Recycling Program - In coordination with the Division of Social Services, Lexington’s Division of Waste Management facilitates a program where registered 501c3 non-profits within Fayette County may apply to reuse working electronics that are brought to the Electronics Recycling Facility. The organizations may utilize the materials as long as they need to, and they are also required to bring materials back to the facility for recycling if and when they no longer need the items.



11b.If no, discuss any plans your governing body has to start an electronics/computer (e-scrap) recycling program: N/A

12. Is office paper recycled in your SWMA?  Yes  No

12a. If yes, what businesses or agencies recycle office paper?

Comingled Collection – Lexington collects recyclables from more than 3,000 local businesses, including all city facilities, most apartment complexes and schools. Paper is a large part of the collected recyclable material stream and is collected through the source-separated yellow paper dumpsters or sorted at Lexington’s Recycling Facility if received in the comingled mix. Paper is then shipped to various paper mills to be recycled, creating revenue for the program.

Regular Shredding Services – Many Lexington businesses, such as hospitals and banks, pay shredding companies to shred and recycle office paper to keep safe any sensitive information.

Paper Shred Events – Lexington hosts bi-annual Paper Shred events with Shred-it, a division of Stericycle. These events provide an opportunity for citizens to drop off paper materials to be securely shredded and recycled into low-grade paper products.

12b.If no, explain why office paper is not recycled in your SWMA: N/A

13. What efforts has your governing body made to assist the local school boards in recycling white paper and cardboard to meet the statutory requirements in KRS 160.294? If there have been none what will the county do to assist in this endeavor? Include dates in the implementation schedule:

Since 2006, Lexington’s Division of Waste Management has collaborated with Bluegrass Greensource in developing an outreach and education program targeting schools, both public and private, grades K-8. This service is provided to Fayette County Schools at no extra cost to the school system with the overall goal of promoting significant diversion goals. The program helps not only schools, but also apartments and businesses that would like to start or expand recycling efforts. In particular, over 150 schools are touched each year by the education and outreach efforts performed by Greensource on behalf of Lexington. Paper and cardboard are collected with recycling dumpsters unless the school is unable to acquire a dumpster unit. Paper is collected as part of the comingled recycling program.

**B. Recycling Program Strengths**

Describe the strengths of your existing recycling program:

Stable Funding Source – Lexington has a stable funding source for waste collection. Funding for the collection of all types of solid waste in Lexington’s collection area is provided by an ad valorem property tax. Each household or business that receives city collection services pays an ad valorem .1423 cents on each \$100 of the assessed value of the house, according to the Fayette County Property Valuation Administrator and Lexington city ordinance.

Recycling Center Value to Central Kentucky – The Lexington Recycling Center is owned and operated by the city and provides an option for recycling to the surrounding Central Kentucky region. The facility partners with other regional municipalities to bring comingled recyclable items to be sorted and processed and share in the earned revenues from the marketing of materials. Affiliate partners enter into a contractual Memorandum of Understanding agreement with the City of Lexington. One requirement within the agreement includes fees for processing, glass recycling and trash disposal assessed to the affiliate.

Public Collection Events - Lexington offers a variety of specialized collection events at no extra cost to residents in order to provide an easy way to divert hazardous waste, paper and other types of materials from being sent to landfills. Paper material collected and shredded at events is recycled into low-grade paper products. Hazardous materials collected are recycled or reused when it is possible. Lexington has noted a general increase in overall citizen participation in such programs throughout the years due to increased awareness throughout the county and improved forms of advertising and outreach. This increase in participation, particularly with household hazardous waste collection events, is notable in part because of a more frequent offering of the events than was available in past years.

Market Research for Expansion Opportunities – Lexington is exploring the expansion of materials accepted at the Lexington Recycling Facility, such as plastics 3-7, and in particular, Polypropylene.

Equipment Upgrades - Lexington has pursued projects that utilize up-to-date equipment, such as trucks run on CNG fuel and the Routeware fleet management system. These advanced technologies have created a high level of overall operational efficiency. In June 2010, Lexington’s

Recycling Facility converted to single-stream recycling collection and processing system. The eight ton per hour processing line was replaced with a new 24 ton per hour Machinex processing line. The tip floor and paved bale storage was expanded at the same time. Since 2010, the facility has also undergone smaller-scale upgrades such as an additional area for cardboard processing and a planned addition of a second baling machine for cardboard baling. In 2021, the facility underwent a \$4.2 million upgrade which installed a new optical sorting system that allowed for an expansion of acceptable recycling materials. With the addition of this machinery, the facility began accepting aseptic carton containers. Also with this upgrade comes the opportunity to divert more items from the landfill-bound waste stream, as well as increase program revenues.

High-quality Equipment – Good equipment, such as durable collection carts and collection trucks, help strengthen Lexington's recycling efforts. In addition, having a stable funding source for recycling programs has allowed Lexington to in turn have an aggressive maintenance and replacement system for carts and equipment.

Comprehensive Recycling Services – Services provided for the Urban Service District city collection area that include: appliances pick-up and recycling, Exempt Collection for customers physically unable to roll a cart, recycling program, yard waste collection program, vacuum-leaf collection, Electronics Recycling Center, drop-off and convenience centers for recycling throughout the city, Live Green Lexington Program, commercial and business recycling collection program, and event recycling.

Electronics Recycling Facility – Lexington owns and operates an Electronics Recycling Facility, which is open six days a week and gives all Fayette County residents an opportunity to drop off electronic waste to be recycled. This facility does not require a fee for drop off and helps divert electronic materials that can be salvaged and recycled to be diverted from landfills.

Special Event Recycling Services – In coordination with the Mayor's Office, Lexington provides specialized event services to organizations hosting large-scale events within Fayette County. The Division of Waste Management is able to provide a variety of waste and recycling services to best suit events of varying locations and sizes.

Education and Outreach Efforts – Lexington maintains its continued investment in program education and outreach efforts to further program goals, encourage public engagement and increase waste collection efficiency. Strong education and outreach efforts that include web pages, seasonal newsletters and postcards, government television, local radio, local media, community presentations, fliers, magnets, advertisements on city collection trucks, videos on web sites such as the virtual recycling facility tour, educational booths at events, and tours of the recycling center.

Private Hauling Recycling Services – All private haulers operating in Lexington offer curbside residential recycling to customers, usually for a nominal fee.

Universal Recycling Collection – Lexington has a universal recycling collection program, which gives all citizens access to recycling. Access is provided through city collection, private collection, a staffed convenience center or un-staffed drop-off centers.

Citizen's Environmental Academy – Another popular program, this department-wide effort is a great tool to educate interested citizens in city programs. This program, referred to as the Citizen's Environmental Academy, is designed as a year-long series of informational sessions geared towards creating a graduating "class" of well-informed, engaged citizens that are knowledgeable on all work of the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works. Program participants take part in presentations on city programs, perform hands-on activities and tour city facilities such as the Town Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Lexington Recycling Facility.

GreenCheck Program - Lexington developed a program to incentivize businesses and organizations to save energy, conserve water, and increase recycling efforts. This program offers applicants the chance to receive assistance from outreach staff to achieve goals. An award ceremony is held annually, along with social media and newspaper shout-outs, to recognize the highest-achieving program participants.

Increase of Recycling Tonnage Received – The Lexington Recycling Center has seen a continued increase in the amount of material it processes. Many types of outreach and enforcement efforts are in place that help decrease contamination as much as possible.

### **C. Recycling Program Weaknesses**

Describe the weaknesses of your existing recycling program:

Contamination of Recyclables – Contamination of recyclables collected and sorted at the Lexington Recycling Facility is an ongoing issue. Coordinated efforts are specifically geared towards correcting confusion and incorrect usage of recycling containers.

Lack of Franchise Agreement with Private Haulers - Local private haulers are not required to enter into a franchise agreement or any other type of agreement to collect solid waste in Fayette County; therefore, Lexington has little control over private hauler operations and results in a lack of a basic level of service requirement.

Lack of Construction Demolition and Debris/Recovery Facilities – There is a general lack of these recovery and recycling facilities, opportunities or markets.

Regional Limitations to Recycling Markets – Lexington is situated in a region of the country that does not host a large recycling market. This limits the amount of materials that can be accepted through Lexington's recycling program due to the revenue that can be generated from each particular item. It is due to area markets that makes recycling a regional effort, and recycling programs can accept different items depending on demand in a particular region. This can create confusion for residents who move to Lexington from other areas of the country and requires continued education and outreach efforts to ensure only the proper materials are placed in recycling collection carts or dumpsters.

### **D. Recycling/Reduction Implementation Schedule**

List a detailed account of specific actions or projects the governing body will complete to maintain or improve its recycling/reduction system, the frequency at which such actions will take place, a date for commencement of the activities and a date at which the activities will cease. **Include educational efforts.**

Specific Actions	Frequency	Month/ Year to Begin	Month/ Year to End
1.) Educate the Lexington public on new recyclable items and what is currently accepted in the recyclable program. Continue aggressive outreach efforts to decrease contamination and increase overall recycling tonnage collected. Coordinate with affiliate partners to ensure education efforts are underway in surrounding municipalities. Strengthen community partnerships to enhance collection, education, local economic benefits and overall awareness of recycling options and goals.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
2.) Explore new markets and potential items to be recycled in the region. Partner with Carton Council of North America and local and national level industry and markets to continue enhancing Lexington's recycling program wherever possible. Research markets for Polypropylene plastics and pursue future recycling opportunities.	Annually	01/2023	12/2027
3.) Expand composting efforts, yard waste collection efforts, and other forms of organic materials collection currently in place. Conduct periodic education workshops on composting, and continue or increase education efforts surrounding current and future yard waste and organics collection programs. Research industry innovations with Lexington's selected consultants. Where possible, work with partner cities to increase organics diversion programs.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
4.) Utilize waste characterization audits to identify areas of program strength and weakness. Strengthen outreach to areas of the waste stream that show a high level of potential for diversion. Guide future education and outreach focus based on waste audit results.	As needed	01/2023	12/2027
5.) Divert bulky items from landfills for alternate markets for recycling and reuse. Research programs in other cities to adopt best practices for diversion. Work with community partners such as Habitat for Humanity to encourage increased option for donation, reuse and repurposing.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
6.) Perform strong outreach and education efforts to continue and increase curbside recycling participation. Work with private haulers to ensure education is accurate to customers. Offer more drop sites throughout Lexington to encourage recycling for those residents that do not receive curbside collection of recyclables.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027

## 5. OPEN DUMPS AND LITTER

### A. Open Dumps and Litter

- Describe the contents of your ordinance with respect to open dumping. Provide a copy of the section of the ordinance(s) pertaining to open dumping and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "**Chapter 5 Attachments.**"

**Enforcement Officers** – The Division of Waste Management has a team of Enforcement Officers tasked with enforcing city ordinance pertaining to waste collection and disposal. The ordinance outlines prohibited behaviors regarding littering and nuisances.

**Code Enforcement** – In addition to Division of Waste Management's Enforcement staff, the Division of Code Enforcement also assists by addressing issues that deal with diminished property values.

The ordinance also outlines penalties for infractions of city ordinances relating to litter and nuisances:

**Nuisance abatement; litter regulations:** Depositing of litter prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person, in person or by his agent, employee or servant, to cast, throw, sweep, sift or deposit in any manner in or upon any public way or other public place in the urban county, or any river, canal, public water, drain, sewer or receiving basin within the jurisdiction of the urban county government, any ashes, debris, garbage, refuse or waste of any kind, whether liquid or solid. Nor shall any person cast, throw, sweep, sift or deposit any of the aforementioned items anywhere within the jurisdiction of the urban county government in such manner that it may be carried or deposited in whole or in part, by the action of the sun, wind, rain or snow, into any of the aforementioned places.

**Nuisance** shall mean any condition or use of premises or of building exteriors, which is detrimental to the property of others or which causes or tends to cause substantial diminution in the value of other property in the neighborhood in which such premises are located. This includes, but is not limited to, the keeping of the following:

- Ashes, debris, garbage, lumber, bricks, cinder blocks, insulation material, building debris, refuse, trash or waste of any kind, whether liquid or solid.
- Abandoned, discarded or unused objects or equipment such as automobiles, furniture, stoves, refrigerators, freezers, cans or containers.

Material such as that identified in bulleted sections above shall not be dumped, buried, covered over, plowed under, used as "fill" or otherwise disposed of upon private property within the urban county, which is zoned for agricultural uses. Material disposed of in violation of this subsection is hereby declared a nuisance. The foregoing prohibition shall not apply to private property zoned for agricultural uses where the property owner has obtained a valid landfill permit in accordance with chapter 16 of this Code, or where the material has been generated solely by the property owner through construction or other activity for the business of agriculture upon his or her private property subject to any state or local regulations regarding water quality or groundwater restrictions.

Nuisance conditions on private property also include prohibiting the exterior storage of non-operating or non-licensed vehicles and the exterior use or storage of indoor furniture.

Notice to abate: The Commissioner of Public Safety or citation officer shall serve a notice upon the owner of any premises on which there is kept or maintained any nuisance in violation of the provisions of this chapter. Such notice shall demand abatement of such nuisance within ten (10) days of notice, unless such nuisance constitutes an immediate danger to health and well-being of the community, in which case the notice shall demand abatement within twenty-four (24) hours of the notice. The notice shall also include the following:

- A statement to the effect that civil penalties of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) may be imposed if two (2) or more notices to abate a nuisance have been issued to the same owner, on the same property, within a twelve-month period and that civil penalties so imposed will be added to the bill for the cost of abatement, if any; and
- Abatement by urban county government: If the owner so served does not abate the nuisance or file a notice of appeal within ten (10) days, the urban county government may proceed to abate such nuisance.
- Lien: The urban county government shall have a lien against the property for its costs incurred in such nuisance abatement and for any civil penalties assessed for violations of chapter 12.

Any person affected by a notice to abate a nuisance shall have the right to request, and shall have granted, a hearing on the matter; provided that such person shall file, with the administrative hearing board or its designee, a written request for such hearing and the grounds therefore within ten (10) days.

Please refer to the Chapter 5 Attachments for full details included within the ordinance.

## 2 What is your process for identifying and recording open dumps?

Process for Open Dump Reporting - Lexington defines an open dump as: An area of solid waste disposal with contents in excess of one cubic yard (approximately one-half of a standard pickup truck bed) that never held a formal permit and was never known to have been the community's de facto waste disposal site. City divisions also report any sites they see while traveling regular routes, and inspectors will regularly travel any roads not normally covered by city divisions that help report. The inspector will record the GPS location and document the dump by taking pictures and making a list of the items found at the site. The state's field operations branch uses a Dump Characterization Sheet to address and cleanup any identified dump sites within one month of their identification:

- A GPS unit records the latitude and longitude of each open dumpsite and pictures are also taken to help identify the dumpsite and record the items found there. The inspector also prepares a written list of items found at the dumpsite.
- The GPS information is downloaded into the city's geographical information system to create a map.
- Lexington then notifies the state's field operation branch to arrange a site visit.
- A Dump Characterization Worksheet is completed.
- Dumpsites shall then be scheduled for cleanup within one month of the site visit from the state's field operation branch.

Citizens may call Lexington's call center (LexCall 311) to report litter or open dump sites they may discover. An inspector will visit each reported open dump site.

The Division of Waste Management works with various city divisions such as Police, in order to clean up areas where dumping occurs. The Division also works with the Commonwealth of Kentucky to report problems and received notifications of situations reported through the state.

## 3. How does the SWMA prioritize the cleanup of open dumps?

Any dump site that has been identified by Lexington shall be cleaned up as soon as possible and prioritized based on the size, magnitude and makeup of the open dump.

The Division of Waste Management also works alongside programs like the Great American Cleanup and Kentucky River Clean Sweep which work to clean up litter-prone sites throughout Lexington.

## 4. Describe the procedures to prevent the recurrence of open dumping at sites that have been cleaned (include surveillance efforts, pull-off barricades, etc.):

To prevent the recurrence of illegal dumping at sites that have been cleaned, Lexington's Division of Waste Management's and its Enforcement Team suggest:

- Posting "No Dumping" signs,

- Fenced, gated or blocked off areas to make them inaccessible for dumping,
- Closed roads with barriers to discourage dumping,
- Requesting state cameras to try to identify persons illegally dumping,
- Lexington provides low cost or free alternatives for waste disposal such as:
  - o Offering Loan-a-Box program to all residents
  - o Collection of mattresses and bulky items at no additional cost
  - o Appliance and dead animal collection at no additional cost
  - o Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Days at no additional cost
  - o Yard waste collection and drop-off center option at no additional cost
  - o Quarterly Disposal Days at no additional cost
  - o Encouraging private haulers to provide bulky items collection to their customers
  - o State tire amnesty program at no additional cost
  - o Promoting reuse of materials through programs such as Habitat for Humanity ReStore's paint-reuse program
  - o Medicine take back days at no additional cost

As outlined within the ordinance pertaining to proper waste collection and disposal, fines and citations are issued to problematic locations that are documented as not following city ordinance.

The Division of Waste Management is actively involved in community cleanup efforts to support beautification efforts, avoid public health hazards and to contribute to the overall economic vitality of Lexington.

5. Describe any assistance your SWMA offers to private property owners to clean open dumps:

Private property owners may utilize all of the resources mentioned in the above question, as well as:

Loan A Box Program – This service is provided by Lexington's Division of Waste Management and is available to all citizens within the Urban Service District of Fayette County. A citizen or neighborhood association may schedule to have a 10 cubic yard box dropped overnight or over the weekend in a specified location to be used for individual or neighborhood cleanup projects. The program is provided year-round.

Division of Adult and Tenant Services – Lexington's Division of Adult and Tenant Services has a program to assist low-income citizens on landfill user costs and tipping fees.

Lexington Housing Authority – The Division of Waste Management works with entities such as the Lexington Housing Authority and area homeless shelters to address set out issues.

- Providing low cost or free alternatives for waste disposal, such as:

- o Collection of mattresses and bulky items at no additional cost
- o Appliance collection at no additional cost
- o Yard waste collection and drop-off center option at no additional cost
- o Quarterly Disposal Days at no additional cost
- o Encouraging private haulers to provide bulky items collection to their customers
- o State tire amnesty program at no additional cost
- o Encouraging residents to take paint and construction materials to Habitat for Humanity's ReStore.

6. Describe your plan to control and clean up litter:

Lexington hosts and supports many programs throughout the year that provide an overall combined effort preventing litter from becoming a hazard in the county.

Litter Crews – Lexington's Waste Management has a crew dedicated to collecting material from sidewalk pitch in containers in the downtown area. This same crew also regularly monitors known illegal dumping sites and picks up litter in rights-of-way, dead-end streets, alleys in the downtown area and vacant lots owned by the city. Crews are also deployed to assist with trash and recycling collection as well as litter cleanup during and after large city or private events.

Community Service Program (Workers from the Detention Center) - The Community Service Program sends residents of the Lexington Detention Center to pick up litter and debris from Lexington streets.

Great American Cleanup - For over 20 years, Fayette County has been a part of the Great American Cleanup, which enlists individual volunteers, civic organizations, neighborhood associations, and businesses to help pick up litter and debris through a series of scheduled cleanup events. This program runs from March to May of each year and is sponsored by the Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission.

Kentucky River Clean Sweep - For over 25 years, volunteers and city staff have gathered at the Clay's Ferry Dock to participate in the Kentucky River Clean Sweep. Debris, trash and recyclables are removed from Fayette County's portion of the Kentucky River.

Code Enforcement – When a nuisance (waste of any kind) is found on private property or through a complaint from a citizen, Lexington's Code Enforcement officers are authorized to investigate and serve a notice to the property owner to abate the nuisance within 10 days. If the

nuisance is not abated within this time period, Lexington will abate the nuisance and send a bill for the cost of the abatement to the property owner.

**Street Sweeping** – Lexington's Streets and Roads Division regularly cleans each street in the full urban services area and some partial services areas once per month. Streets not in these service areas are swept at least once per year. Street sweepers pick up about 3,000 tons per year.

**Hazmat Team** - In the case of a hazardous materials spill, the hazardous material team (from Lexington's Fire Department) goes immediately to the scene to try to mitigate the hazard, find the responsible party and coordinate the cleanup. If the responsible party cannot be found, Lexington takes responsibility for the cleanup.

**Special Events Crew** - For special events, such as the Fourth of July and the annual Roots and Heritage Festival, Lexington Waste Management provides extra waste containers, for both trash and recyclables, and a cleanup crew during and after the event. At some events, the Division of Streets and Roads and the Division of Parks and Recreation also assist in the cleanup, dependent on location.

**Streets and Roads** – Lexington's Division of Streets and Roads is responsible for cleanup of Lexington's roadways during disasters, such as storms and tornadoes.

**Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission** – Lexington is a Keep America Beautiful affiliate and created the Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission, which has been very active in addressing litter problems and sponsoring cleanup events. The Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission receives funding to help out with their mission of keeping Lexington clean of debris and litter, and they host a Litter Index survey each spring that assesses areas of Lexington to be prioritized for cleanup efforts.

**City Mowing Contracts** – The Division of Environmental Services contracts with mowing companies to handle properties that need to be mowed. The contractors are required to collect litter before mowing and report the number of bags collected.

Please refer to the list included in Chapter 5 Attachments for a full list of litter cleanup efforts and events supported by the Division of Waste Management and the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works.

7. Describe the coordination efforts that exist within your SWMA with local, county and state law enforcement. If your county has a litter ordinance, provide a copy of the ordinance(s) or the portion of the solid waste ordinance(s) pertaining to litter and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "**Chapter 5 Attachments.**"

Litter and illegal dumps observed on private properties are addressed by Lexington's Code Enforcement Division.

Police, Planning and Code Enforcement share information on the number of citations issued each year with the Division of Waste Management in order to accurately report the data within the State Solid Waste Annual Report.

The Divisions housed within the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works are organized to allow for effective collaboration amongst the divisions. This helps in communication and coordinated efforts, to address litter prevention and cleanup.

Lexington continues to work in a coordinated fashion with city divisions and state departments to prevent problems from happening in the first place and quickly address any reported or persisting issues that have already occurred. Such efforts include sites of illegal tire dumping. The Division of Waste Management assists in cleaning up sites and prioritizes such projects.

## **B. Open Dump Prevention Strengths**

Describe the strengths of your program to clean and prevent open dumps:

**Loan A Box Program** - The Loan A Box dumpster rental program is a mutually-beneficial program that provides an easy method of disposal for qualifying Lexington residents while in turn preventing open dumping. Within the last five year planning period, the program has expanded the number of dumpsters available for rental at any one time to twenty per day. This program helps deter residents from otherwise dumping unwanted materials illegally in other parts of the county.

**Coordinated Efforts Amongst Divisions** – Even though the Division of Waste Management and the Division of Streets and Roads are primarily responsible for cleaning up litter and illegal dump sites on rights-of-way and abandoned lots, Lexington has other divisions that assist, if needed, such as Parks and Recreation. This allows Lexington to pool resources of manpower and equipment.

**Special Cleanup Efforts** – Lexington participates in many cleanup efforts and programs to deter open dumps, such as: Kentucky River Clean Sweep, Community Service Program from the Detention Center, and Great American Cleanup.

**Numerous Disposal Options** – Waste Management offers many free or low-cost disposal options built into the package offered to residents receiving city waste collection to prevent open dumps from becoming a prevalent issue in the county, such as:

- (a) Quarterly Disposal Days at no additional cost
- (b) Collection for bulky items, tires, mattresses, and appliances at no additional cost
- (c) Appliance collection at no additional cost
- (d) Lexington Recycling Facility – drop off sites at no additional cost
- (e) Paper Shred Events – at no additional cost
- (f) Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events - at no additional cost
- (g) Electronics Recycling Center – electronics and fluorescent light bulbs can be dropped off at no additional cost

- (h) Collaboration program with Habitat for Humanity ReStore where latex paint can be dropped off at no additional cost
- (i) State tire amnesty program when it is available (usually every three years) at no additional cost
- (j) Collection days for medicine at no additional cost

City Call Center - LexCall, Lexington's city call center, is available Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. to answer any questions and take down any calls regarding litter or spills that residents may report. This readily-available staffed call center allows for the ability to immediately address issues. Residents may also leave messages after hours, or report issues via the website form or phone application.

**C. Open Dump Prevention Weaknesses**

Describe the weaknesses of your program to clean and prevent open dumps:

Although Lexington has taken measures in some cases to prevent recurrence of illegal dumping at a site, the existing program faces challenges with overall preventative strategies.

Efforts to prevent illegal dumping at some recurring sites have been unsuccessful.

**D. Open Dump Prevention Implementation Schedule**

List specific actions or projects your SWMA will complete to maintain or improve its open dump abatement program. **Include educational efforts.**

Specific Actions	Frequency	Month/Year to Begin	Month/Year to End
1.) Continue regular review of ordinances to see if they can be strengthened to help further prevent incidents of open dumping in Lexington. Investigate the possibilities of utilizing community service workers in cleanup efforts and development of brownfields. Provide any outreach that would benefit said possible projects.	Annually	01/2023	12/2027
2.) Encourage increased research of options for marketing litter commodities such as scrap metal or mixed plastic materials cleaned up from open dump site clean ups. Educate program participants that scrap metal can be recycled, but that it can pose severe hazards to equipment at the Lexington Recycling Facility if discarded into the recycling stream.	Annually	01/2023	12/2027
3.) Coordinate efforts closely with the state on open dump prevention and management programs such as the tire amnesty program, and to receive grant funding when needed to help in open dump site cleanup efforts. Review ordinances to see if they can be strengthened. Work with Code Enforcement to issue citations to property owners when a nuisance is found. Ensure the public is aware of opportunities and programs that prevent open dumping.	Annually	01/2023	12/2027
4.) Offer beneficial programs and disposal alternatives, at no cost whenever possible, to residents to continue prevention of open dumps before they occur. Provide education regarding medical takeback options and infectious waste disposal. Make information about said programs widely available.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
5.) Conduct cleanup efforts that engage scrap yards, auto dealers and the public to assist in preventing open dump sites. Participate in RiverSweep, the litter index survey and Great American Cleanup events annually. Educate the public on ways they may engage in and assist with community efforts.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
6.) Explore new and different ways technology can be utilized to help identify and even prevent open dump sites, such as utilization of surveillance cameras, signage and GPS. Ensure any necessary education that could assist in implementing new technologies is made widely available to residents.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027

**E. Litter Prevention Strengths**

Describe the strengths of your program to control and clean up litter:

Lexington is committed to funding the cleanup of litter sites and reducing the amount of litter in Fayette County

Loan A Box Program - The Loan A Box dumpster rental program is a mutually-beneficial program that provides an easy method of disposal for qualifying Lexington residents while in turn preventing litter. The program has increased the number of dumpsters available for rental at any one time to twenty. This program helps deter residents from otherwise littering unwanted materials in other parts of the county.

Special Cleanup Efforts – Lexington is committed to continue participation in cleanup events, such as The Great American Cleanup, and the Kentucky River Sweep, and continue to support local organizations, groups and neighborhood associations in their litter cleanup events. Lexington is also committed to special efforts such as:

- (a) Street Sweeping Program
- (b) Containers and crews at special events
- (c) Collaboration with other divisions
- (d) Use of Detention Center crews for litter cleanup
- (e) Waste Management crew that cleans alleys, downtown streets and sidewalks, on a routine basis

Litter Abatement Grant – The Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works applies for the Litter Abatement Grant offered by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. This grant is pursued annually, and provides vital resources needed to help prevent litter and debris from building up in areas of town.

Ancillary Crew - The Division of Waste Management has a dedicated ancillary crew that assists with servicing public pitch-in waste containers in the downtown area and add carts or containers when necessary, including extra containers added to community reinvestment areas. There is also a dedicated litter crew that ensures areas of downtown are kept clean.

Bluegrass Greensource and GreenCheck Program – The ongoing efforts of Bluegrass Greensource, contractors with the City of Lexington on a variety of environmental goals, help abate litter and clean it up where it is problematic by supporting cleanup efforts. The GreenCheck program encourages businesses, apartments and schools to increase green practices such as recycling, energy conservation, conduct litter cleanup events, educate staff about litter, provide containers at key spots, provide pocket ash trays to employees that smoke and maintain litter free zones around their businesses.

Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission – This Commission has been very active in addressing litter problems and sponsoring cleanup events. The Commission also receives grant funding and undertakes various projects to combat severe litter issues such as cigarette butt litter and other general litter. They determine areas of focus with an annual litter index assessment of the main parts of the city.

Numerous Disposal Options – Waste Management offers many free or low-cost disposal options built into the package offered to residents receiving city waste collection to prevent open dumps from becoming a prevalent issue in the county, such as:

- (a) Quarterly Disposal Days at no additional cost
- (b) Collection for bulky items, tires, mattresses, and appliances at no additional cost
- (c) Appliance collection at no additional cost
- (d) Lexington Recycling Facility – drop off sites at no additional cost
- (e) Paper Shred Events – at no additional cost
- (f) Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events - at no additional cost
- (g) Electronics Recycling Center – electronics and fluorescent light bulbs can be dropped off at no additional cost
- (h) Collaboration program with Habitat for Humanity ReStore where latex paint can be dropped off at no additional cost
- (i) State tire amnesty program when it is available (usually every three years) at no additional cost
- (j) Collection days for medicine at no additional cost

Stop Panhandling Now Program – In 2017, the Mayor's Office and local community service organizations began an initiative to stop panhandling in Lexington and decrease litter. The program is supported by Lexington through providing transportation to locations where participating citizen are compensated for helping picking up litter. This effort is a cooperative program made possible by a public-private partnership amongst City Council, the New Life Day Center and other city programs. Organizations provide the funding that pays for the participants to pick up litter.

City Call Center – The Division of Waste Management works closely with council offices and other groups, providing general assistance with cleanup efforts when needed. LexCall, Lexington's city call center, is available Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. to answer any questions and take down any calls regarding litter or spills that residents may report. This readily-available staffed call center allows for the ability to immediately address any issues before they become larger problems. Residents may also leave messages after hours, or report issues via a website form and phone application.

Streetscapes Plan – Lexington has a comprehensive streetscape plan for the downtown area, which includes strategic positioning of waste and recyclable public receptacles.

Stormwater Education – Lexington has a strong educational campaign addressing stormwater issues, including litter. The campaign includes ads on buses, newspapers, electronic banners, social media, Web sites and local media, such as TV and radio.

Watershed Festivals – Lexington's Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works organizes numerous neighborhood watershed festivals where litter prevention education has been offered

## F. Litter Prevention Weaknesses



Describe the weaknesses of your program to control and clean up litter:

Total prevention of littered areas has always been a challenge to fully achieve. However, Lexington continues to work hard in a coordinated fashion amongst city divisions, state departments, citizen efforts, and non-profits and school groups - all sharing an invested interest in the safety and cleanliness of Lexington - to prevent problems from happening in the first place and quickly attending to any reported or persisting issues that have already occurred.

Multiple city divisions can assist in litter issues and cleanup efforts but that can also cause difficulties in who is ultimately responsible for addressing the issue.

Although Lexington has taken measures to clean litter locations, the existing program faces challenges with overall prevention efforts.

**D. Litter Prevention Implementation Schedule**

List specific actions or projects your SWMA will complete to maintain or improve its litter abatement program. **Include educational efforts.**

Specific Actions	Frequency	Month/ Year to Begin	Month/ Year to End
<p>1.) Although Lexington has taken measures in some cases to prevent recurrence of illegal dumping at a site, the existing program faces challenges with overall preventative strategies. Administer and assist with cleanup efforts that engage and educate the public in preventing and cleaning up frequently littered areas of Lexington. For example, recruiting volunteers to participate in the Keep Lexington Beautiful Litter Index assessment to pinpoint target areas, and to also recruit volunteers to organize cleanup efforts in needed areas. Ensure street sweeping efforts continue. Work with the Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission to carry out objectives such as city-wide cigarette litter prevention. Educate the public on all available ways they may engage and assist in efforts.</p>	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
<p>2.) Offer beneficial programs, at no cost whenever possible, to residents in order to continue preventing littering before it occurs. Make information about programs, such as the opportunities presented through the Great American Cleanup effort, widely available to residents and businesses. Utilize the GreenCheck Program as a way to reach out and further prevent litter.</p>	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
<p>3.) Provide litter pickup in downtown areas, frequently-littered areas and alleyways. Respond to any complaints of litter issues that may be reported throughout the year. Work closely with the state on litter prevention and control programs and assistance. Work with the state to receive grant funding to help in litter cleanup efforts. Ensure the public is aware of opportunities and programs that help prevent litter cleanups from being needed in the first place.</p>	Daily	01/2023	12/2027
<p>4.) Explore options for marketing litter commodities such as scrap metal or mixed plastic materials identified through litter clean ups. Educate program participants that scrap metal can be recycled, but that it can pose severe hazards to equipment at the Regional Recycling Facility if discarded into the recycling stream.</p>	Annually	01/2023	12/2027
<p>5.) Review ordinances to see if littering can be further prevented in any way. Investigate utilizing community service workers in cleanup efforts of minor thoroughfares. Prepare for and participate in large events such as Fourth of July to prevent litter from becoming a nuisance in Lexington's public spaces, especially with attendees coming from other cities. Provide necessary outreach to prevent litter from being an ongoing or persistent issue.</p>	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027

<p>6.) Regularly explore new or different ways that technology could be utilized to help identify and even prevent litter. Coordinate efforts with Streets &amp; Roads division to provide cleanup to roadways after severe weather events; regular street sweeping and litter pickup in areas of the county that may be outside the Urban Service Area. Ensure any necessary education that could assist in implementing new technologies is carried out.</p>	<p>Annually</p>	<p>01/2023</p>	<p>12/2027</p>
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**6. FACILITY SITING**

*As per KRS 224.01-010, the definition for a "solid waste management facility" is any facility for the collection, storage, transportation, transfer, processing, treatment, and disposal of solid waste..." Solid waste facilities include, but are not limited to contained landfills, CD/D landfills, transfer stations, recycling centers and composting facilities.*

**A. Facility Siting**

1. Describe your SWMA's current siting ordinance(s). Include any local planning and zoning requirements. *Attach a signed and dated copy of the current siting ordinance(s) and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "Chapter 6 Attachments."*

Local Zoning Requirements for Landfills, Transfer Stations and Recycling Centers:

The current siting ordinance within the City of Lexington, attached, requires that any landfill, transfer station or recycling facility follow local as well as state and federal zoning guidelines when applying for a site permit. It should be noted, however, that LFUCG and all levels of government are exempt from Lexington's local zoning ordinance. As fully outlined within Article 14-5, all proposed facilities must go through an application process via the City of Lexington's Planning Commission and subsequent council approval. Any application considered must pass all requirements outlined within the ordinance itself, and must follow the procedures and standards for approval of the exclusive use zone. City council may also approve rezoning an area to house a proposed landfill site if they determine the need exists and all zoning requirements may be fully met.

Landfills are permitted in the EX-1 zone, an exclusive use zone created about 40 years ago for only landfill uses. Permits must be approved by the Planning Commission and City Council, but they must also be approved by both the Kentucky Department of Environment Protection and the Fayette County Health Department.

Transfer facilities are considered an "accessory use" in EX-1 zones for any landfill use. They are subject to both development and operation plan approvals by both the Planning Commission and the City Council. Any transfer station independent of landfill use is considered "conditional use" in locations zoned Heavy Industrial (I-2). They are subject to review and approval by the Urban County Board of (Zoning) Adjustment after a public hearing is held giving property owners in the area a chance to submit comments. All local, state and federal laws are applicable to transfer station zoning restrictions. There are extensive prerequisite conditions that must be adhered to, such as hours of

operation and spacing requirements in relation to other residential or agricultural-rural zoning areas.

Industrial recycling facilities are permitted in Light Industrial (I-1) areas within the ordinance, and are considered "principal permitted use" allowing "Recycling, sorting, baling and processing of glass and nonferrous metals including copper, brass, aluminum, lead and nickel, but not including automobile wrecking yard, building materials salvage, junk yard or other uses first permitted in the I-2 zone. Recycling and processing of paper scrap and storage of waste paper shall be permitted only when wholly conducted in a completely enclosed building." Prerequisite requirements exist for such facilities, such as spacing in relation to residential zones and operating in completely enclosed structures.

Where there is no local requirement or ordinance, Lexington follows the state laws concerning siting and/or zoning of any waste management facility.

2. Describe in detail the site approval process for your SWMA. Attach a copy of the siting procedures and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "**Chapter 6 Attachments.**"

(Ignore numbers off to the left side; cannot remove them; will write them out before submitting report)

Steps involved in a Zone Map Amendment for an EX-1 zone (Landfills):

1. A pre-application conference shall be held at least five (5) working days and not more than three (3) months prior to filing an application.
2. Application materials prepared by the applicant.
3. File the application. The information required to file an EX-1 zone is listed below:
  - a. General Information Sheet (part of the application materials)
  - b. Legal Descriptions of the Zone Change (x7)
  - c. Property Information Maps (x50)
  - d. List of Surrounding Property Owners
  - e. List of Supplemental Property Owners (necessary if adjacent to Ag)
  - f. Notification Letters (including supplemental notice, if necessary)
  - g. The Deed (x2)
  - h. Certificate of Land Use Restriction (x2)
  - i. Geologic and Soils Reports
  - j. Topographic Maps
  - k. Preliminary Operational Plan
  - l. Preliminary Development Plan (x25)
  - m. Development Plan Application
  - n. Tree Inventory Map or Tree Protection Plan
  - o. Filing Fees (total of two (2) checks)
4. Review of the zone change application will be made by the staff and the Zoning Committee prior to forwarding a recommendation to the full Planning Commission. The staff, Technical Committee, and Subdivision Committee review the preliminary development plan prior to forwarding a recommendation to the full Planning Commission.
5. Applicant responds by letter to the Zoning Committee and Staff recommendation if the applicant wishes to postpone the request prior to placing it on the agenda.
6. Postponed applications – Postponement notice letters are sent to the surrounding property owners.
7. Advertising – The public hearing will be advertised in the local paper, the Lexington Herald-Leader, at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.
8. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing. At the beginning of the meeting, postponement and withdrawal requests will be heard. The Planning Commission has ninety (90) days in which to act upon the requested zone change. The Planning Commission will then hear abbreviated cases, and then hear the discussion cases, typically in the order on the agenda. At the public hearing the Planning Commission will vote to approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove the zone change request. If the Commission approves the request, the applicant must get the preliminary development plan certified within two weeks of the Commission action, otherwise, any Commission action of approval of the zoning will be considered null and void.
9. A report of the Commission's action will be sent to the City Council.
10. The City Council acts upon the zone change request. The City Council may choose to conduct their own public hearing, or may choose to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation without a public hearing. The City Council must act upon the requested zone change within ninety (90) days of the Planning Commission's action.
11. If the City Council rezones the property, then Final Development Plans, Operational Plans, and any additional reports (as necessary) can then be filed with the Division of Planning for Planning Commission Approval, prior to obtaining land disturbance, zoning compliance and/or building permits.
12. Other permits required for operation – a) Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet & b) Lexington-Fayette County Health Department.

3 List any planned modifications to your existing siting ordinance(s), siting procedures, planning and zoning requirements and/or land use regulations. If your SWMA does not have a siting ordinance, planning and zoning and/or land use regulations, what steps are planned for developing and enacting an ordinance or other local policy to regulate the use of land for solid waste facilities within your area?

Currently, there are no planned modifications to the existing ordinance.

4. Selection of a site for a solid waste facility can be very controversial and the public must be given an opportunity to understand and participate in the process. What steps are taken by the SWMA to ensure the public is informed and involved in the decision-making process for siting solid waste facilities within your area?

The site approval process contains a requirement for notification to be sent to surrounding property owners.

A public notice is also required to be advertised stating that a public hearing will take place prior to any permit being issued. The public notice must be advertised in the city newspaper at least seven days prior to the public hearing date.

5. The siting process at the local level and the permitting process at the state level are mutually supportive and share the same objective for solid waste facilities to meet environmental, engineering and operational standards, as well as be acceptable to the public. Describe how your SWMA coordinates local siting procedures with state permitting procedures for solid waste facilities.

Lexington adheres to policy which follows state permitting procedures as they pertain to local siting procedures.

## **B. Facility Siting Strengths**

Describe the strengths of your existing siting ordinance:

In Fayette County landfills are only allowed in the EX-1 zone. This means that if someone wanted to site a landfill, they would have to go through our zone change process. The zone change process usually takes 4-6 months to complete. The applicant must first make an application to the Lexington's Division of Planning, where their proposal will be reviewed by government staff from many different divisions, including, but not limited to: Engineering, Traffic, Building Inspection, Waste Management, Urban Forestry, and Fire. Mailed notice of the proposed zone change must be sent to all the properties owners within 400 feet of the proposed zone change. The Planning Commission then hears the application, where it is required to have a public hearing. Finally, the zone change application is acted upon by the City Council, who can choose to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation or conduct its own public hearing on the requested zone change.

This process allows ample opportunity for both technical review and public input, with the ultimate zoning decision being made by the City Council.

The EX-1 zone does not allow for any use other than a landfill and its accessory uses. Because of the time needed for a landfill to settle, it would not be appropriate for the land to be reused until the site has been completely restored. Should someone in the future wish to rezone the property for another use, they would have to go through the rezoning process described above.

In addition to the normal zone change requirements, the applicant must provide information concerning the soil and geologic characteristics of the proposed land, operational plans, and provide other information that will be important to the decision makers. Examples of the additional information are listed below.

- (a) In order for an applicant to file for a zone change to an EX-1 zone they must provide information on topography, for example, including the intake and discharge of all surface water, where fluids will be injected underground, and all proposed waste-processing facilities.
- (b) A soils report must be prepared by a certified geologist in order to review the soil for soil types, drainage class, flood hazard potential, and suitability of the soil as cover material, to name a few. The soil must be of a sufficient impermeable material to form a seal between the landfill and the bedrock.
- (c) A geologic report must be prepared by a certified geologist in order to review the nature of the terrain and bedrock. Maps showing information such as the composition of materials, hydrologic properties, porosity, and the depth of the water table are also required to be shown. The site must be located a safe distance from sinkholes, streams, lakes, wells, and other water surfaces.
- (d) Operational plans and maps are required to show any proposed fill areas, borrow areas, structures, fencing, and methods of operation. The applicant must also plan and schedule for site restoration, and the ultimate land use for the site, if possible.

The purpose of requiring additional information regarding the landfill is to protect the public health and safety, improve compatibility, and promote public welfare. All of this information is an important tool that the city can use when making decisions of the placement of a proposed landfill.

The site should be easily reached from arterial roads or highways . Increased costs of hauling and any reduced impact of a remote location on existing development should be balanced against engineering costs to make a site closer to the urbanized area suitable.

There are additional strengths of our ordinance that do not directly relate to the placement of a landfill, but are important factors, nonetheless. For instance, in order to operate a landfill, the applicant must obtain permits from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet and the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department.

### C. Facility Siting Weaknesses

Describe the weaknesses of your existing siting ordinance:

A zone change may take a long time until a final decision is made. The zone change process mentioned as a strength also has a weakness due to the length of time the process takes. A typical zone change can take anywhere from four to six months until a final decision has been reached by council. With the inherently controversial nature of a landfill use, the process may be postponed well beyond that; however, timing requirements will basically confine the process to six months unless the applicant agrees to postponements. Additionally, if there is strong opposition during and after a zoning decision is made, it can be likely that the decisions of the Planning Commission or the City Council may be appealed in a court of law, thus further extending the length of time of uncertainty. This lengthy process tends to make applicants and neighbors alike sometimes feel as if the "fight" may go on for an indefinite amount of time. A lengthy process can be a drain on the resource funding of the applicants and especially any opposing neighborhoods. However, if the process were shortened, then opposing neighborhoods may not get as many opportunities to voice their opinions.

The Lexington-Fayette Comprehensive Plan does not recommend particular sites for landfills. This means that potentially any site within Fayette County could apply for a zone change to an EX-1 zone in order to develop a landfill. However, since the Comprehensive Plan is silent on the subject, the bodies involved with a zone change request must look at the appropriateness of each proposed site.

The 250-foot setback of the landfill and operations from any property line could be increased, thus providing a better buffer to neighboring

properties. However, increasing the perimeter buffer requirement will decrease the volume and life of the landfill, thus requiring more landfills in the future.

Lexington's ordinances concerning local landfill permitting could potentially benefit from a review to determine if updates may be necessary.

**D. Facility Siting Implementation Schedule**

List specific actions or projects the SWMA will complete to maintain or improve its facility siting system, the frequency at which such actions will take place, a date for commencement of the activities and a date at which the activities will cease. **Include educational efforts.**

Specific Actions	Frequency	Month/Year to Begin	Month/Year to End
1.) Consider any capacity planning needed with future zoning efforts, taking into account future waste generation projections. Provide any outreach necessary if the need arises.	As needed	01/2023	12/2027
2.) Continue regular review the zoning ordinance as it pertains to landfills, transfer stations and recycling facilities. Recommend any beneficial amendments to the current process that would be helpful to any future applicants for solid waste management facilities. Present any pertinent findings or recommendations to the Commissioner of Environmental Quality and Public Works.	Annually	01/2023	12/2027
3.) Consider education efforts for the Lexington community that would address the necessity of solid waste management facilities and their benefits to overall solid waste management within the city. Utilize various means of outreach that are available.	As needed	01/2023	12/2027
4.) Develop and incorporate a provision within the Zoning Ordinance that requires any applicant for zone change to EX-1 facilities first apply with the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works prior to applying with the Planning Commission.	Once	01/2023	12/2027
5.) N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.) N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**7. ENFORCEMENT**

**A. Enforcement Program**

1. Describe your enforcement procedures and penalties for non-participation in your approved solid waste collection system. Attach a copy of the section of the ordinance(s) or procedures pertaining to non-participation and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled **"Chapter 7 Attachments."**

Lexington makes collection services available to all customers in the Urban Services Area.

Section 16-3 of the Code of Ordinances states: "The urban county government will provide a roll cart container to every residential property which is currently within the full urban services district or a partial district which provides for refuse collection. For multi-unit residential properties, the Urban County Government will, subject to the provisions of Code of Ordinances section 16-4(b), provide a roll cart container for

each unit, which contains kitchen facilities. Roll cart containers for recyclable materials will be provided to the above-noted properties upon request. Residents who have received a medical exemption from the roll cart collection by the Urban County Government may be provided a refuse collection container but will not be subject to ordinances regulating placement of roll cart containers or roll cart containers for recyclable materials at the curb line but will be subject to all other applicable ordinances."

All residential properties in the city service area are given a green trash roll cart and provided service. Billing for collection is included in the property tax bill as an ad valorem tax for garbage disposal. If property taxes are not paid, a lien is placed on the property and eventually the owner may be forced to sell the property in order to pay the debt. If the water bill is not paid, water service may be disconnected. Collection is not interrupted for non-payment.

#### Current Enforcement Activities:

Division of Waste Management, Enforcement Department – When the green trash roll cart was introduced to Lexington customers in 1983 (Ordinance No. 126-83), its purpose was to provide a cleaner method of garbage disposal and to decrease physical injuries to Waste Management employees collecting the garbage. The Division has an Enforcement Department made up of four officers who ensure all ordinances pertaining to the roll carts and other wastes placed at the curb are abided by each week.

Keeping carts off the curb during non-collection hours was primarily to prevent theft or damage to them since they are the property of Lexington. However, over the years carts being left on the curb have continually grown into an esthetic problem.

Ordinance 126-83 stated that a fine would be assessed if the carts were set out early or not removed from the street, but the process to collect a fine through district court was ponderous and ineffective. Understandably, it was not a priority for such a court. In 2000 an administrative court, the Environmental Hearing Commission, was established by ordinance to better address such issues. The following measures are included in the ordinance:

- When a cart is set out early or left at the curb in violation of Section 16-10, a notice-of-violation tag will be placed on the cart or at the door.
- The property owner and occupants will then be notified by mail or fax of the notice of violation and informed that subsequent violations in a 12-month period will result in a fine. A property owner can designate another contact, such as a property management company, to receive the notice. A form will be available for a landlord to complete and return to Lexington naming a designee to be notified of violations.
- When three violation notices in a 12-month period are issued at a property, a fine of \$24 will be assessed, which will be increased 33% if it is appealed.
- A higher fine will be assessed for additional violations within a 12-month period.
- The property owner or occupant has two options: to appeal the violation to the Environmental Hearing Commission or to evict the occupant that created the problem and proves that this has occurred.
- Improper setouts also will be tagged with a notice of violation. If a second notice is issued, the property owner will be fined \$44. If there are subsequent violations within a 12-month period, the fine increases per violation to \$100, \$175, and \$250.
- If improper setouts remain on the curb, causing a safety or health hazard, Lexington can abate the hazard and charge the property owner the cleanup cost in addition to the fine.
- A lien can be placed against the property for the amount of the fine and abatement costs.
- In the case of an eviction where an excessive amount of material could be improperly placed on the curb, Lexington will work cooperatively with the landlord. The landlord first must notify the Division of Waste Management of the eviction date and must put all setout material in regulation. Waste Management will collect the material as soon as their work schedule permits and no notice of violation will be issued.

Accela - The Division of Waste Management streamlined the reporting process when it implemented a program called Accela. This program is operated on handheld, portable devices to be taken out into the field during an Enforcement Officer's shift, enabling real-time reporting such as picture-taking and logging of information. By embracing technology and advancements in the field, this program was fully implemented by the Division of Waste Management in mid-2017 and is designed to make permitting and reporting processes more efficient.

Division of Code Enforcement - On the complaint of a citizen or when a nuisance (waste of any kind) is found by investigation, Code Enforcement officers are authorized by ordinance to serve a notice to the property owner to demand abatement of the nuisance within 14 days. If the nuisance is not abated within this time period, a citation will be issued. Additional citations may be issued, depending on the severity of the violations. Lexington will then abate the nuisance and send a bill for the cost of the abatement to the property owner. If the bill is not paid within 14 days, a lien may be placed against the property. After the lien is recorded, a demand letter is sent requesting payment along with a copy of the lien. Property can be foreclosed and sold at Master Commissioner's sale for non-payment of liens. The proceeds of the sale shall first go towards payment of taxes, if any are due, then to pay the lien.

Civil penalties may be assessed for violation of the nuisance abatement ordinances. The assessed penalties are based on the number of notices to abate issued within a 24-month period. In other words, the more times a property owner has been cited, the higher the civil assessment. The first citation is \$100, the second is \$250, the third is \$500, the fourth is \$1,000 and the fifth is issued for \$1,500.

Any person served with a nuisance abatement notice has the right to request a hearing. A written request for a hearing must be filed within seven days of the violation notice. If no appeal has been filed within that period, it is assumed that the violation has been committed.

All appeals are heard by the Administrative Hearing Board. An appeal from the board's decision may be made to the Fayette District Court within thirty days of the board's decision. The Hearing Board is composed of at least three and up to five members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council. Each member shall serve a term of three years and shall be licensed to practice law in Kentucky or have completed a course in mediation training. The board meets monthly. At the hearing, the hearing officer, based on the evidence, will determine whether or not a violation was committed. The hearing officer can determine to uphold the citation, dismiss it, or hold the citation in abeyance for a set period of time, to allow for the owner to correct violations.

Division of Emergency Management - On a complaint basis, the Division of Emergency Management (DEM) investigates the illegal dumping of hazardous waste. If DEM is able to track down the responsible party, a Notice of Violation is sent. If the violator does not comply and clean up the hazardous waste dump site, DEM will file charges against the violator in District Court.

2. Describe all surveillance/enforcement activities used by your SWMA to prevent litter and illegal dumping; for example, neighborhood watches, hidden cameras, etc. Attach copies of citation forms and letters to violators and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "**Chapter 7 Attachments.**"

To prevent the recurrence of illegal dumping at problematic sites, Waste Management's Enforcement Department has incorporated a variety of methods shared with any property owners. Enforcement Staff recommend the following measures to property owners:

- Posted "No Dumping" signs in or around the disposal area
- Fenced off or gated areas to make them inaccessible for dumping
- Placed cameras to try to identify persons illegally dumping. Even signage stating that cameras are in use can prove to be effective ways to deter dumping in some instances.

Ancillary Services - Ancillary services can utilize equipment such as the knuckleboom truck to prevent illegal dumping from becoming a larger public health issue and keep Lexington clean of large debris or illegal set outs.

Community-wide effort – A cross-divisional, community-wide effort is in place that helps deter litter and illegal dumping activities.

3a. Do you use an administrative court for solid waste issues?  Yes  No

3b. If "yes" to question 3a, above, provide the date the court became effective:

An Administrative Court for Nuisances went into effect in July of 2009.

The Hearing Board went into effect in October of 2000.

4. Describe the operative procedures of the administrative court for solid waste issues. Attach a copy of the relevant documents or codes that relate to the administrative court and place at the end of the report with a cover sheet labeled "**Chapter 7 Attachments.**"

On the complaint of a citizen or when a nuisance (waste of any kind) is found by investigation, Code Enforcement officers are authorized by ordinance to serve a notice to the property owner to demand abatement of the nuisance within 14 days. If the nuisance is not abated within this time period, a citation will be issued. Additional citations may be issued, depending on the severity of the violations. Lexington will then abate the nuisance and send a bill for the cost of the abatement to the property owner. If the bill is not paid within 14 days, a lien may be placed against the property. After the lien is recorded, a demand letter is sent requesting payment along with a copy of the lien. Property can be foreclosed and sold at Master Commissioner's sale for non-payment of liens. The proceeds of the sale shall first go towards payment of taxes, if any are due, then to pay the lien.

Civil penalties may be assessed for violation of the nuisance abatement ordinances. The assessed penalties are based on the number of notices to abate issued within a 24-month period. In other words, the more times a property owner has been cited, the higher the civil assessment. The first citation is \$100, the second is \$250, the third is \$500, the fourth is \$1,000 and the fifth is issued for \$1,500.

Any person served with a nuisance abatement notice has the right to request a hearing. A written request for a hearing must be filed within seven days of the violation notice. If no appeal has been filed within that period, it is assumed that the violation has been committed.

All appeals are heard by the Administrative Hearing Board. An appeal from the board's decision may be made to the Fayette District Court within thirty days of the board's decision. The Hearing Board is composed of at least three and up to five members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council. Each member shall serve a term of three years and shall be licensed to practice law in Kentucky or have completed a course in mediation training. The board meets monthly. At the hearing, the hearing officer, based on the evidence, will determine whether or not a violation was committed. The hearing officer can determine to uphold the citation, dismiss it, or hold the citation in abeyance for a set period of time, to allow for the owner to correct violations.

5. If your SWMA does not have an administrative court for solid waste issues, do you plan to initiate an administrative court during this plan period?  Yes  No **If yes, provide dates in the implementation schedule:**



6. Describe any proposed modifications to your open dumping and littering procedures/ordinances. Provide dates in the implementation schedule:

Lexington's Solid Waste Coordinator (the Director of the Division of Waste Management) will review ordinances and make any recommendations to strengthen any necessary areas of the policy.

7. Describe enforcement actions or procedures taken by the SWMA if identifying information (i.e. names, addresses, etc.) is found in litter or an illegal dump:

Very little action may be taken if any identifying information is found within or on an open dump item. Littering and Open Dump statutes can only be enforced if a perpetrator is caught in the act of littering or illegally dumping items, or when a witness is willing to file a report claiming they saw someone perform such an act.

### **B. Enforcement Procedures Strengths**

Describe the strengths of your existing enforcement procedures regarding litter and illegal dump prevention and non-participation in your approved collection system:

Enforcement of ordinances pertaining to litter, waste collection, illegal dumping and other forms of waste crosses over many different city divisions such as Waste Management, Code Enforcement, Streets & Roads, Police and all of Public Safety. Coordinated efforts across divisions serve as an impactful way to effectively combat dumping, littering and general wastes/nuisances.

Divisions can cite policy and work hand in hand to enforce the statutes cited in the ordinance. Lexington has several divisions that enforce litter laws and illegal dumping:

Lexington Police Department - The Lexington Police Department can and does enforce litter and illegal dumping in some instances.

Division of Code Enforcement – Code Enforcement enforces illegal dumping ordinances on private property. Illegal dumps on private property are defined as civil offenses. This allows Code Enforcement to issue citations and fines. If the dump is not cleaned in the specified amount of time, Code Enforcement will clean the illegal dump and charge the cleanup to the property owner. An administrative hearing board hears any appeal of the fine, citation or abatement charge. Non-payment may result in a lien being placed on the property.

Lexington's Division of Waste Management – The Division has an Enforcement Department consisting of four trained Enforcement Officers. Enforcement Department serves as a key role in ensuring ordinance is followed throughout Lexington. They serve as a visible presence in the community and assist in ensuring public safety and health are prioritized throughout the year.

Accela – The Accela program, an automated enforcement application that allows for Enforcement Officers to carry a handheld device to assist with real-time reporting such as picture taking and reporting violations at particular locations, helps Enforcement Officers while they are encountering violations in the field. This program creates more efficient operations within the Division of Waste Management.

Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission – Lexington's Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission works year-round towards reducing or eliminating the problem of litter in Lexington.

### **C. Enforcement Procedures Weaknesses**

Describe the weaknesses of your existing enforcement procedures regarding litter and illegal dump prevention and non-participation in your approved collection system:

The Division of Code Enforcement's processing can be lengthy from the time of Notice to Abate based on court proceedings and placing a lien on a property.

The issue of absentee landlords and identifying the appropriate point of contact for a property out of regulation can pose an issue to resolving problems.

Many apartment or townhome associations have a high turnover rate of managers, which leads to issues with communication and proper waste disposal procedures.

The Lexington Police Department enforces littering and open dumping statutes only if the perpetrator is caught in the act or if a witness is willing to file a complaint. It is because of this practice that Lexington has very little enforcement of illegal dumping in alleys and on rights-of-way.

If an owner cannot be located or identified, Lexington must bear the cost of cleanup and safe disposal of any nuisances or violations.

The Police Department can only prosecute violators if they are caught in the very act of littering or illegally dumping, so catching someone who is at fault is usually difficult. In addition, litter citations are not always strictly enforced by local courts.

**D. Enforcement Implementation Schedule**

List a detailed account of specific actions or projects the county will complete to maintain or improve its Enforcement System, the frequency at which such actions will take place, a date for commencement of the activities, and a date at which the activities will cease. **Include educational efforts.**

Specific Actions	Frequency	Month/ Year to Begin	Month/ Year to End
1.) The Division of Waste Management's Enforcement Department will continue to perform regular checks on all areas of the city each week. Officers will provide citizen with necessary education when the opportunity presents itself and will encourage proper participation and an easy understanding of city ordinance. Continue working with Keep Lexington Beautiful on the annual litter index survey when requested.	Daily	01/2023	12/2027
2.) The Division of Waste Management's Enforcement Department will work closely with other city divisions such as Police and Code Enforcement to ensure public health and safety is effectively protected regarding any nuisances, illegal dumping, litter or large set outs. Code Enforcement can issue citations to property owners when non-hazardous nuisances are identified.	Weekly	01/2023	12/2027
3.) Conduct outreach to entities such as apartments and landlords to help educate residents on proper set out of large items and move out procedures that would promote safe disposal of large items. Work with the Greater Lexington Apartment Association to ensure messages are communicated efficiently and regularly to all apartment communities in the city. Work with landlords to ensure large set outs are avoided when evictions occur. Educate property owners on the importance of avoiding illegal or large set outs in Lexington.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
4.) Continue utilization of Acela, an automated enforcement application that allows for Enforcement Officers to carry a handheld device to assist with real-time reporting such as picture taking, reporting violations at particular locations, etc. while they are encountering violations in the field. Educate the public on how advancing technology such as enforcement reporting methods can create more efficient operations within the Division of Waste Management.	Daily	01/2023	12/2027
5.) Continue promotion of the Loan A Box dumpster rental program so citizens are aware of easy disposal methods to avoid improper set outs and illegal dumping. Ensure sufficient equipment is available when it is needed by Enforcement personnel for safe and efficient disposals in emergency situations.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027
6.) Research alternate options and best practices used in other areas that would assist Lexington in preventing illegal dumps and enforcement of policies pertaining to dumping and litter. Provide education and outreach to the public to encourage adherence to ordinance pertaining to litter and waste collection. Explore further efforts to aid in litter law enforcement. Remove recycling and yard waste carts from users when there is a chronic mis-use to prevent contamination.	Monthly	01/2023	12/2027

## 8. FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

### A. Financial Mechanisms

1. Check all items that apply for the funding of your Solid Waste Program.

- Line Item in County Budget
- Collection franchise fees
- 109 Taxing Board
- General Fund
- Host agreement fees
- Other (list all): Landfill Fund, dedicated ad valorem tax on property values for properties receiving city collection services, \$4.50 monthly user fee for each household based on number of waste containers, grants, revenues for Loan A Box program, revenues from sale of recyclables, dumpster permit fees and additional pick up fees, tipping fees at the Haley Pike Waste Management Facility.

2. How is the Solid Waste Coordinator's position funded?

- Line Item in County Budget
- Collection franchise fees
- 109 Taxing Board
- General Fund
- Host agreement fees
- Other (list all): Landfill Fund and Urban Service Fund

3. List all fees/revenues collected by local government for solid waste management. Examples of fees/revenue are: fees charged for disposal facilities under KRS 68.178; fees charged by local government for garbage collection; 109 taxes, franchise and/or permit fees charged by local government; fees charged at transfer stations or convenience centers if owned by local government; and revenue received from the sale of recyclables.

Type of Fees/Revenue:	Anticipated Amounts Collected				
	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	4 <sup>th</sup> Year	5 <sup>th</sup> Year
License Fee (per KRS 68.178 for Off-Site Waste Management Facilities)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Municipal Garbage Collection (city and/or county)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Franchise fee	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Permit fee	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Transfer station	\$280,000	\$290,640	\$301,684	\$313,148	\$325,048
Convenience center	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
109 or other tax	\$41,856,490	\$43,447,037	\$45,098,024	\$46,811,749	\$48,590,595
Proceeds from sale of recyclables	\$2,304,000	\$2,391,552	\$2,482,431	\$2,576,763	\$2,674,680
Landfill user fees	\$6,850,000	\$7,110,300	\$7,380,491	\$7,660,950	\$7,952,066
Host agreement	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
General revenue	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Eastern Kentucky PRIDE	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Grants, Conservation Service	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Grants, State illegal dump	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Grants, State litter abatement	\$178,909	\$184,491	\$190,247	\$196,183	\$202,304
Grants, State Crumb Rubber	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Grants, State HHW Collection Grant	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$102,000

Grants, State Waste Tire	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Grants, State Recycling	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify): Landfill Fund & Urban Service Revenue	\$151,500	\$157,257	\$163,233	\$169,436	\$175,874
Other (specify): Sludge Disposal & Sanitary Sewer Fees	\$774,000	\$774,000	\$897,840	\$1,041,494	\$1,208,134
Other (specify):	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify):	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ANTICIPATED</b>	<b>\$52,500,899</b>	<b>\$54,304,020</b>	<b>\$56,619,950</b>	<b>\$58,875,723</b>	<b>\$61,234,701</b>

4. Provide the following information on anticipated expenditures during the 5-year update period.

Type of Expenditures:	Anticipated Expenditures/Budget				
	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	4 <sup>th</sup> Year	5 <sup>th</sup> Year
Capital Expenditures	\$3,915,299	\$4,064,080	\$4,218,515	\$4,378,819	\$4,545,214
Personnel	\$15,343,007	\$15,926,041	\$16,531,230	\$17,159,417	\$17,811,475
Collection	\$6,129,846	\$6,362,780	\$6,604,566	\$6,855,540	\$7,116,050
Disposal	\$4,397,160	\$4,564,252	\$4,737,694	\$4,917,726	\$5,104,600
Enforcement	\$198,972	\$206,533	\$214,381	\$222,528	\$230,984
Open Dump Cleanups	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Litter Cleanups	\$178,909	\$185,708	\$192,764	\$200,089	\$207,693
Education Activities	\$916,356	\$951,177	\$987,322	\$1,024,840	\$1,063,784
Recycling Costs/Expenses	\$2,453,739	\$2,546,981	\$2,643,766	\$2,744,229	\$2,848,510
Other (specify): Administration, composting contract	\$6,696,016	\$6,950,465	\$7,214,583	\$7,488,737	\$7,773,309
Other (specify):	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify):	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify):	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify):	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify):	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>TOTAL COSTS ANTICIPATED</b>	<b>\$37,775,565</b>	<b>\$41,758,017</b>	<b>\$43,344,821</b>	<b>\$44,991,925</b>	<b>\$46,701,619</b>