



GOAL: PROMOTE A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

STRATEGIC STATEMENT: *Preserve the health of our natural resources, air quality, and our drinking water through the widespread use of environmentally sustainable management practices, effective stormwater management, and the enhancement and rehabilitation of lakes and other ecological systems.*

1 Strategy 1: Implement renewable and conservation-related energy technologies, and incorporate green practices in the delivery of County programs and services where cost effective.

- Action A:** Evaluate and implement new ways to procure products and services that promote green operational practices.
- Action B:** Draft, adopt, and implement policies and ordinances that support emerging energy alternatives county-wide to encourage renewable energy technologies in appropriate locations.
- Action C:** Continue to review County policies and practices and consider sustainability, along with business factors, and where appropriate, implement more sustainable alternatives.

2 Strategy 2: Raise awareness about green and sustainable practices by leveraging existing tools and partnerships to encourage residents, businesses, and other governments to change behaviors and practices.

- Action A:** Reduce pollutants in surface water (streams, lakes, and wetlands) and groundwater by educating and raising awareness about watersheds and their importance in maintaining a safe supply of high quality drinking water.
- Action B:** Conduct targeted community outreach to increase the amount of residential hazardous waste collected.
- Action C:** Increase the volume of textiles collected by informing residents about drop off sites throughout the county.
- Action D:** Raise awareness about the County's sustainability programs and activities through public information efforts utilizing multi-media formats.

3 Strategy 3: Implement long-term solutions for increasing waste diversion through recycling and composting, reducing the toxicity of our waste, and developing long-term disposal options that have a positive impact on energy usage, reducing key pollutants and greenhouse gases.

- Action A:** Continue to implement the recommendations from the 60% Recycling Taskforce.
- Action B:** Work with SWALCO, municipalities, private waste management and recycling companies, and other stakeholders to implement measures and minimize barriers to reduce total waste, increase waste diversion from the landfills, and encourage composting and recycling.
- Action C:** Support SWALCO's efforts to raise awareness regarding the establishment of food scrap diversion programs in Lake County, and examine the feasibility of establishing a pilot food scrap diversion program on one of the Lake County campuses.
- Action D:** Promote sustainable waste management practices, and identify and develop solutions to eliminate or mitigate barriers to waste diversion and recycling within County facilities.
- Action E:** Work with SWALCO, and other stakeholder groups, in their regional and state-wide advocacy roles to support legislation that re-instates viable electronic recycling programs and assists in creating end-markets for compost material.

4 Strategy 4: Protect and preserve natural resources and ecological systems by promoting and supporting stewardship and enhancement, green infrastructure development and maintenance, and avoiding adverse environmental impacts.

Action A: Implement natural resource protection and enhancement plans.

Action B: Continue to partner with stakeholders to reduce the level of pollutants released into surface water, groundwater, sanitary sewers, and storm drains.

Action C: Evaluate and promote alternative land use policies and practices – including green site design innovations to enhance the county’s natural resources and ecological systems.

Action D: Encourage the use of Green Infrastructure (GI) including: site-specific, best management practices that absorb and infiltrate precipitation where it falls; an interconnected network of open spaces, habitat enhancement, and natural areas; water conservation and other recognized GI practices.

Action E: Support economic development strategies that help grow a green economy and green jobs based on market-driven demands.

Action F: Improve air quality by establishing a schedule for building energy audits, fleet management, and by researching, and implementing, where feasible, practices to reduce pollutants and exploring methods to measure the County’s carbon footprint.

Action G: Implement and report on the Sustainability Chapter of the Lake County Regional Framework to encourage sustainable development practices.

Action H: Advance sustainable agriculture and local food initiatives.



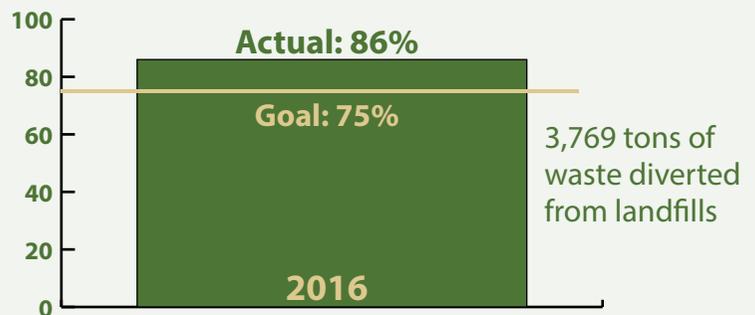
In 2016, the County Café in the Lake County Courthouse & Administrative Complex started using eco-friendly products, including disposable utensils, plates, cups, and other paper supplies that are compostable, biodegradable, and/or able to be recycled. These products replace Styrofoam products that do not biodegrade and can't be recycled.

5 Strategy 5: Provide a reliable and sustainable supply of safe drinking water to residents.

Action A: Implement and report on water conservation measures and their impacts on usage.

PERFORMANCE METRIC

75% of all construction and demolition debris is recycled for covered projects in unincorporated areas of Lake County.



Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling for Unincorporated Lake County

SWALCO Per Capita Per Day Disposal Rate

