



## Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

# BACKGROUND

- ▶ In 1999, Congress granted EPA the authority to provide financial assistance to federally-recognized Tribal governments for the development and implementation of programs to manage hazardous waste through Appropriations Act - P.L. 105-276. These programs must improve the applicant's ability to properly identify, manage, or dispose of hazardous waste.
- ▶ The Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR) conducts an annual grant competition to select projects for funding. Selected projects are awarded and managed through EPA regional offices.

# Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### ➤ Objective:

To provide financial assistance to Tribal governments and Tribal Consortia for the development and implementation of hazardous waste programs; for building capacity to improve and maintain regulatory compliance; and developing solutions to address the improper management of hazardous waste on Tribal lands.

### ➤ Funding:

At Least \$500,000 Anticipated in 2022

### ➤ Timeframe for posting the competitive announcement on grants.gov:

Early to Mid-March in 2022

# Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

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- ▶ To maximize the benefits to tribes from the limited funding to support this grant program, the Agency reassessed criteria used to evaluate applications to place a greater emphasis on technical assistance and transferability.
- ▶ The goal is to provide technical assistance to a greater number of tribes for activities that involve hazardous waste management on tribal lands.
- ▶ To accomplish this goal, the Request for Applications was revised to:
  - Include the following threshold eligibility criterion that requires all applicants to clearly address technical assistance and transferability under the “Project Description” and “Technical Assistance/Transferability” criteria as outlined below:
    - Project Description – Applicants must provide a detailed description on how technical assistance and transfer of information will occur through the proposed project.

## Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

# PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Technical Assistance/Transferability – Applicants must clearly address the various components of this criterion as disclosed in *Section 5(A)* of the Request for Applications.
  - Applications that do not specifically provide this information will not be considered.
- Give more points for demonstrating that the benefits of the grant will impact more than one tribe.

## Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE/TRANSFERABILITY

- ▶ Examples of proactive approaches tribes can use to provide technical assistance and transferability through their projects:
  - Implementing peer matches as a component of the proposed project.
  - Establishing strategic partnerships to address hazardous waste.  
Examples include:
    - Partnering with local governments, schools, or other tribes to develop and implement a Universal Waste (e.g., fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, etc.) awareness campaign or program.
    - Identifying barriers to establishing relationships with state or local governments to address hazardous waste management challenges and developing effective solutions to overcome the barriers.
    - Developing and implementing HHW collection events and programs that include removal of waste from more than one tribal community.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE/TRANSFERABILITY EXAMPLES CONTINUED

- Presenting on the EPA hosted RCRA Tribal Waste Management Program Webinar Series and/or partnering with EPA and other tribes to host webinars and trainings including sustainable materials management principles and practices such as green chemistry; and generating less waste from the start (prevention and source reduction) of hazardous materials.
- Providing Impact stories that share best practices learned and implemented during the project via factsheet, brochure, or video documentation.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE/TRANSFERABILITY EXAMPLES CONTINUED

- Developing outreach materials and other products that tribes share via social media, meetings or conferences. Examples include:
  - Developing a Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) template that other tribes can use as a model for developing their own HWMP.
  - Creating a “How-To” video of the process, from start to finish (prevention and source reduction), of developing and implementing a used oil collection event or program.
  - Creating a video tour of HHW collection facilities for other tribal environmental directors, staff or community members to provide them with a detailed look at the daily operations of these facilities.



## Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

# EXAMPLES OF FUNDABLE PROJECTS

The following activities are examples and do not limit the range of activities considered eligible under this grant program. These activities are eligible when they are performed in support of developing and implementing a tribal program to manage hazardous waste:

Developing and implementing codes, regulations, ordinances, policies, and/or guidance to regulate hazardous waste management;

Creating a household hazardous waste outreach and education program and communication plan;

Developing a reservation-wide management program for universal waste or used oil;

Developing and implementing household hazardous waste collection events and/or programs; and

Developing and implementing universal waste collection events and/or programs (e.g.; batteries, fluorescent bulbs, pesticides, and mercury containing equipment).

# QUESTIONS

# Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Pala's Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program

How we run our program



# Grant Writing Tips

# Things To Consider As You Write Your Grant...

Get your baseline work (roadmap) done first (unless you're just starting out).

Figure out your tracking methods.

Utilize peer-to-peer networks (ITEP).

Start small, build slowly.

Consider capacity limitations.

Get staff buy-in for the program FIRST!

Have other staff review application.

# Leverage Funding With PPG's

## PPG = Performance Partnership Grant

*Requires more tracking (financially), but sooo worth it for the increased flexibility.*

### Flexibility

Provides flexibility to move \$\$ around  
BETWEEN GRANTS

BETWEEN YEARS

(even BETWEEN CATEGORIES)

Easy to add in new EPA grants as you get them

Increases tribal control over your  
environmental program

### Streamlines Reporting

Fewer Grant Financial Reports

1 quarterly report  
combines all grants under PPG

1 grant application submission  
under Grants.gov

### Lowers Match

Rolling your grants into a  
PPG reduces the match to  
5%

Pala's

Awesome

HHW

Grants

**FY10 (\$69,800)**

Write a HHUMP - Household Hazardous & Universal Waste Management Plan; HHW Collection Events

**FY18 (\$91,500)**

Curbside HHW Pilot; HHW Collection Events, Waste Stream Characterization Training

**FY21 (\$98,000)**

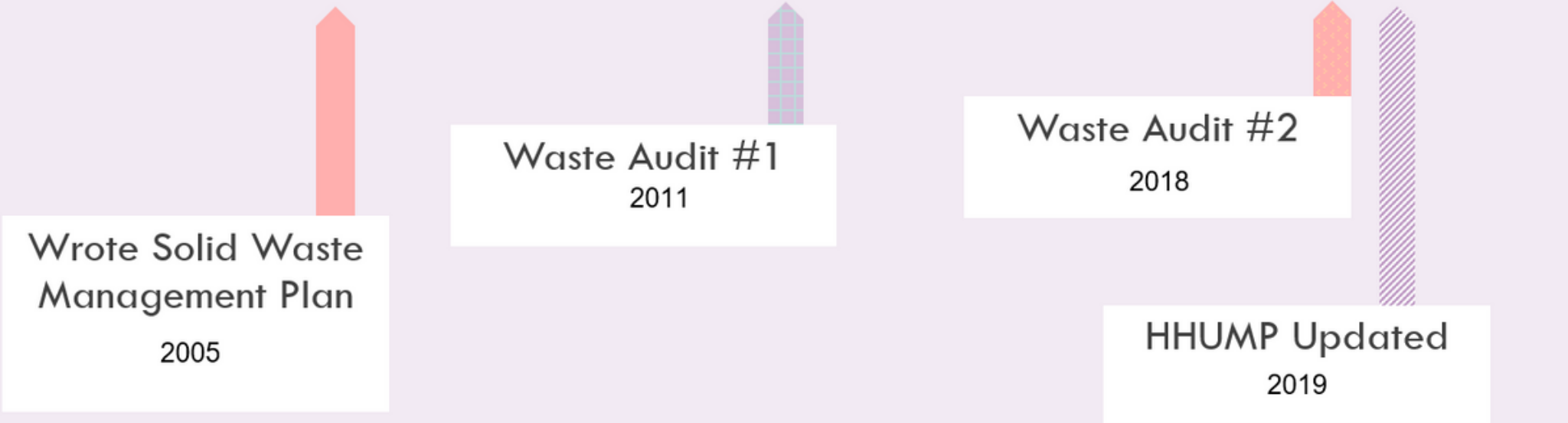
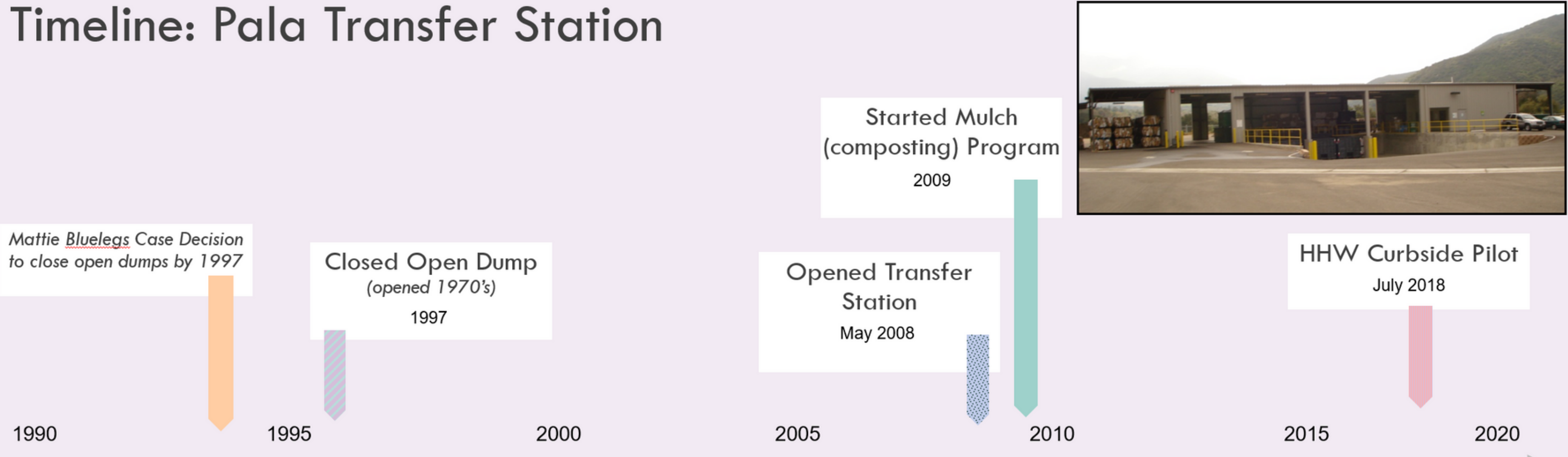
HHW Swap Pilot; Residential Home Audit / Inspections; Intertribal Collection Events



# Developing a Robust HHW Program



# Timeline: Pala Transfer Station



## SOP's

- ❖ HHW Event
- ❖ Battery Collection
- ❖ Tire Collection

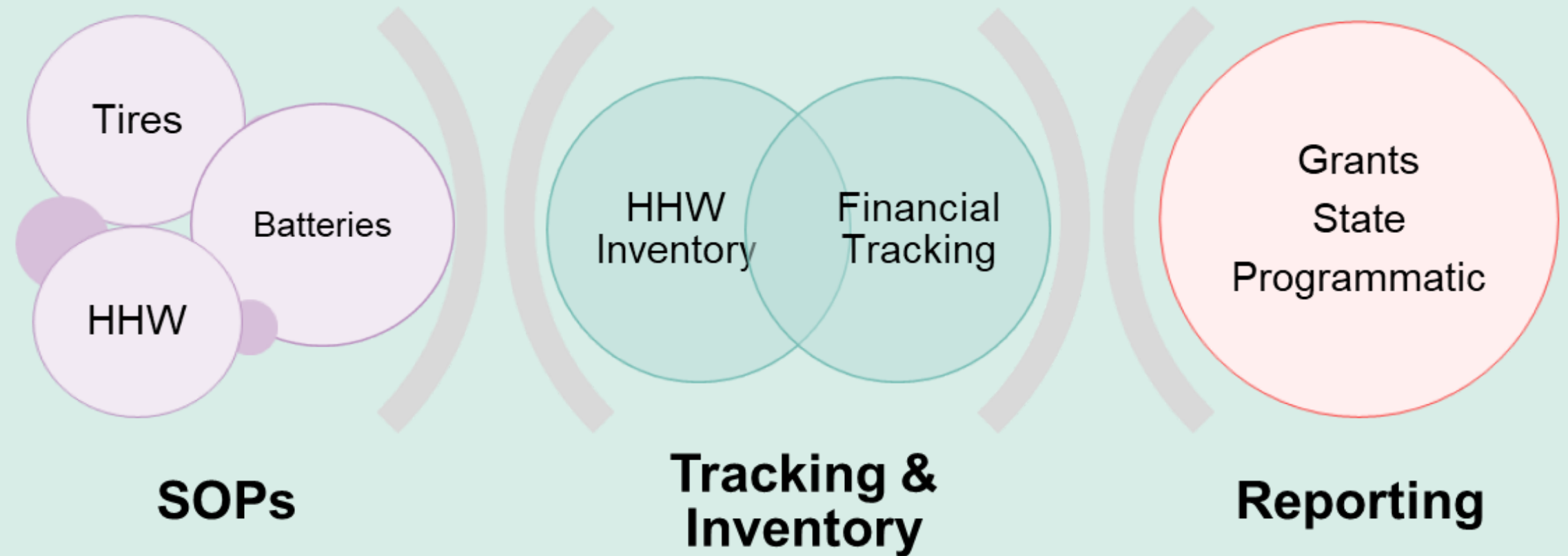
## Tracking & Inventory

- ❖ Waste Audit
- ❖ HHW Event Inventory
- ❖ HHW Curbside Log
- ❖ Recycling Curbside Log
- ❖ EDCO (*trash*) Bin Pick-Up Log
- ❖ HHW Storage Inspection Form

## Reporting

- ❖ Writing a HHUMP
- ❖ Reporting Diversion Rates
- ❖ Tracking Income/Expenses
- ❖ Tracking Funding Sources

First Steps for setting up an HHW Program.



# WHY do a Waste Audit?

- To get your baseline, know what you're dealing with
- To know how well your E/O works

ID your current waste streams  
*(baseline)*

ID what you're missing  
*(new targets)*

Program effectiveness

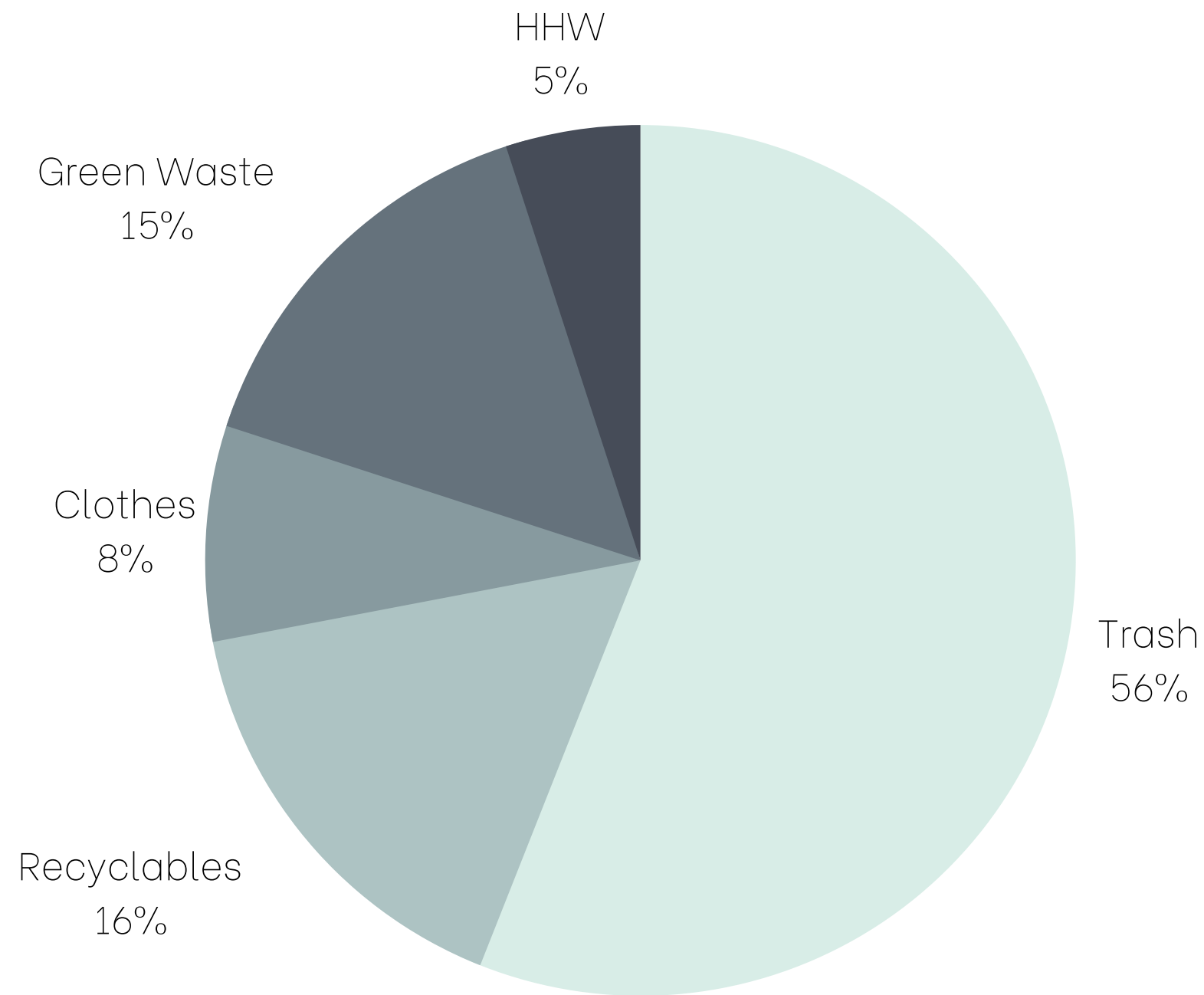
Outreach effectiveness

New plan of attack



## Waste Audit Shenanigans

Conducting a waste audit defines your baseline (current situation) & informs your program goals by defining your roadmap

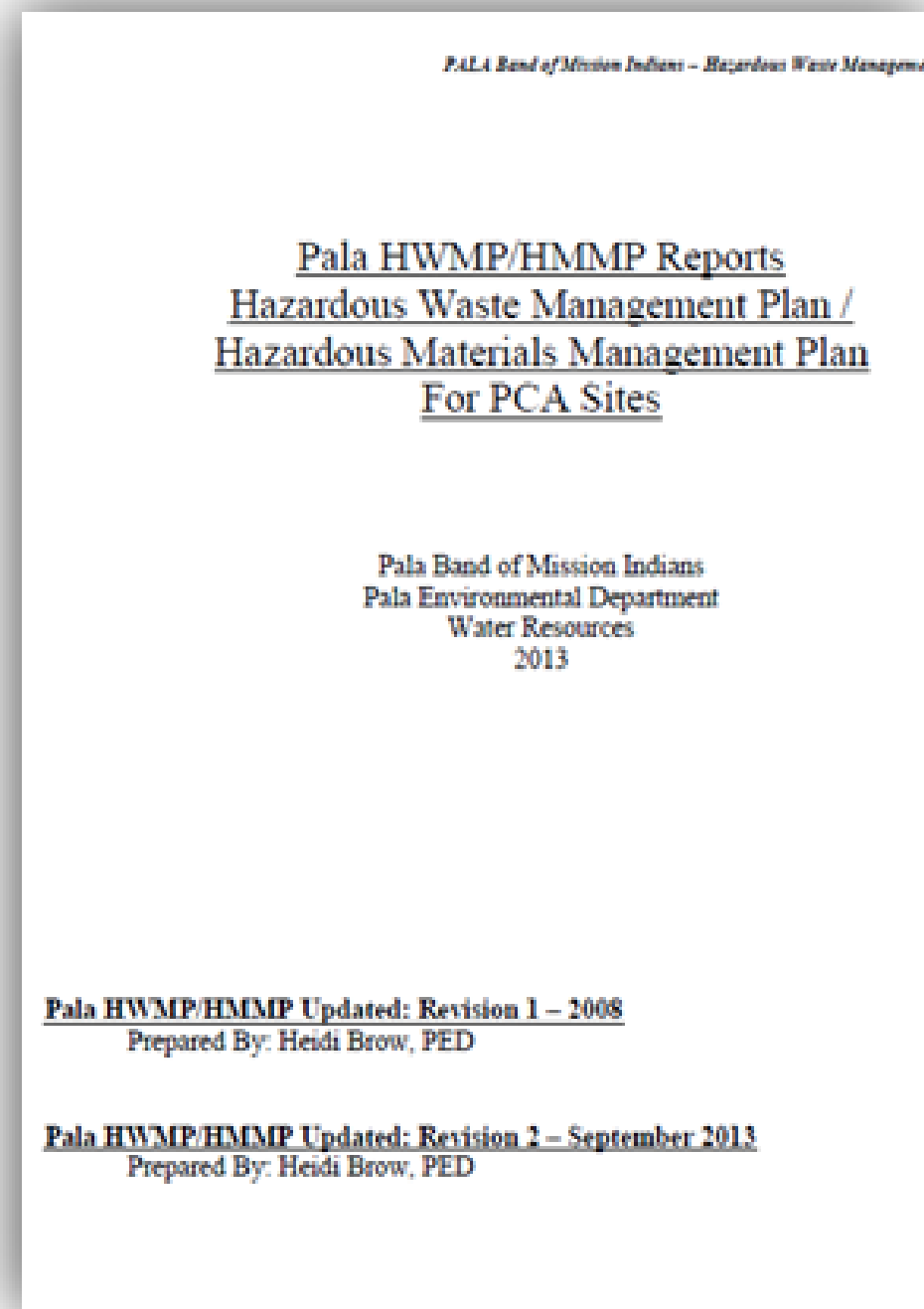


**Problematic Wastes:**

- **Medical Waste and Sharps:** Two used syringes and transfusion tubing was found in the residential waste.
  - **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):** Household cleaners, solvents, and automobile chemicals were found in the waste stream indicating residents likely need better options for disposing of HHW correctly including regular HHW events.
  - **E-Waste:** Waste sort data indicates that relatively small amounts of e-waste were found in the residential waste.
- ✓ *Continue promoting the proper disposal and recycling of problematic items at the Transfer Station and the Pala Environmental Department. Efforts should address HHW, white goods, vehicle batteries and parts, and e-waste.*
  - ✓ *Monitor and anticipate increased e-waste generation.*

# 2018 Waste Audit Results

- This is your roadmap.
- Helps you stay on track, accomplish milestones, & reach end goals.
- Provides justification for projects.



# Writing a HHUMP

## Household Hazardous & Universal Waste Management Plan

Outlines proper collection, storage,  
& disposal of HH & Universal Wastes

**They bring it to us.**

**We pick it up from them.**



How Do We  
Collect HHW  
From The  
Community?

# Household Hazardous Waste Collection Week(s)

## **Pala Community members**

Tribal members and those who live on the reservation may bring their HHW to the Pala transfer station free of charge for one week each quarter.

## **Members from surrounding tribes**

Tribal member from the four other tribes in our area will be able to drop off their HHW at the Pala transfer station free of charge for one week during two of the quarterly events.



# Curbside Collection Pilot Study



## **Started pilot in 2019**

Designed to make the disposal of HHW easier for tribal members and to discourage improper disposal.

## **Picked up with recycling**

In order to piggy back off the curbside recycling habits we decided to have HHW picked up at the same time as recycling.

## **Make the bins stand out**

We had red bins custom designed to help draw attention. We refer to them as the red bins.

## **Swap pilot program**

We will be providing a location at the transfer station for people to drop off partially used cleaning products and paint for others to use.

## **Home audit program**

We will provide tribal members with a kit to be able to perform a self-audit to see what HHW is in their homes and then give them information on potential better choices to reduce the amount of HHW in their homes.

# Upcoming Pilots

Previously delayed programs  
that will be launched soon

## Flyers

With almost every new program or update to existing programs we design flyers to convey the information to the community.

## Social media

We post to Instagram and/or Facebook to remind people of these ongoing programs or any new events that may come up.

## In person events

We have information available during most community events. Our department usually has a booth that we stock with information about all our programs.



# Outreach Options

How we communicate with  
our community

# Community Based Social Marketing

Use this tool to target your outreach to YOUR community

## What is CBSM?

Tool  
Community-Based  
Social Marketing

CBSM is just a tool to help you reach an audience & ultimately encourage behavior change in your community.

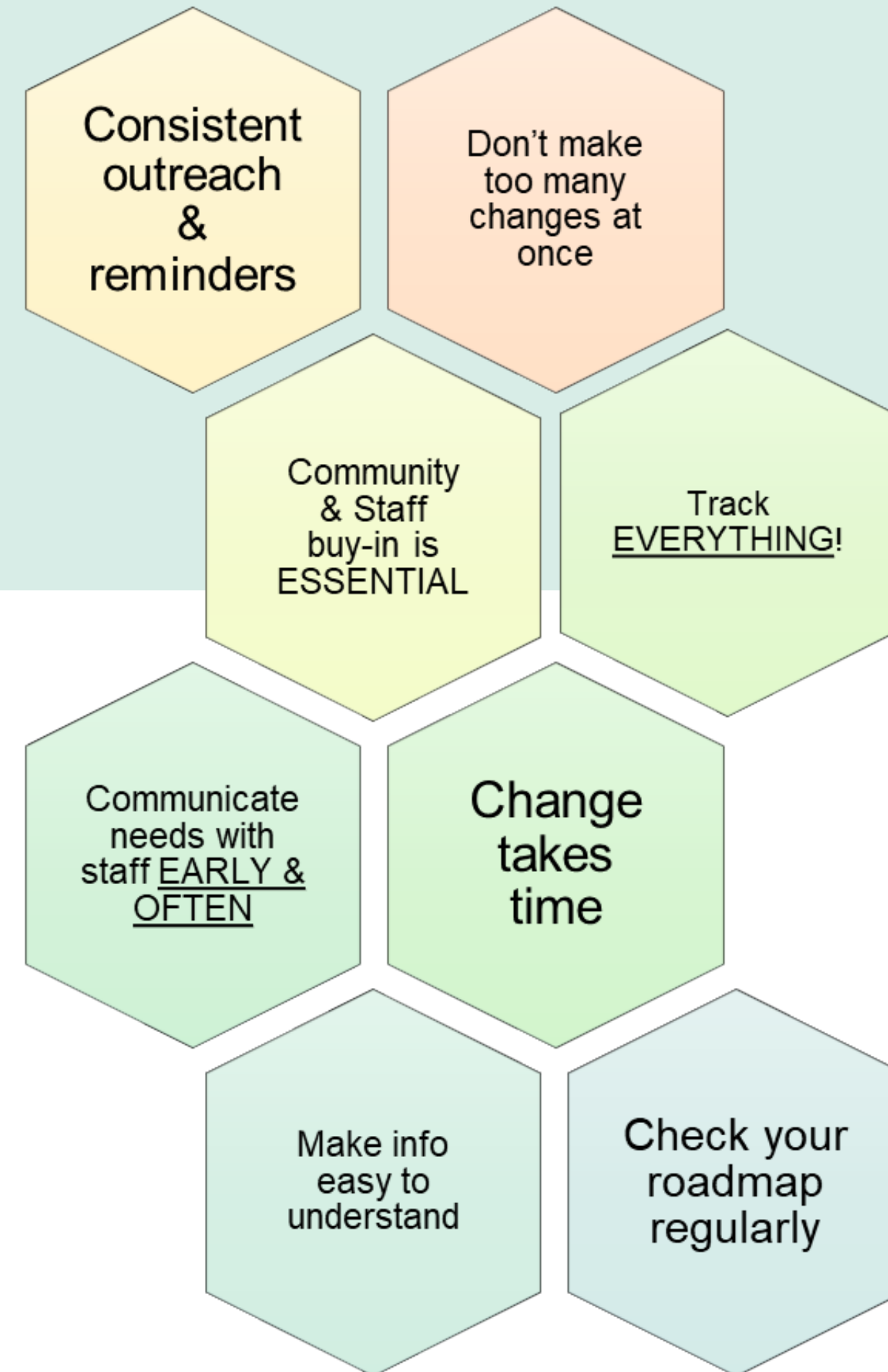
*This is done using psychology & social marketing to leverage your community's actions into real behavior change.*

- STEP 1 – Select behaviour (goals)  
*Get our community to recycle more at curbside.*
- STEP 2 – ID behaviours & BARRIERS  
*survey, focus groups, observe, research*
- STEP 3 – ID behaviours & BENEFITS FOR COMMUNITY  
*ID incentives, prompts, outreach, commitments, social norms, social diffusions, convenience*
- STEP 4 – Start your pilot  
*Outreach; track our progress; analyse results*
- STEP 5 – Scale up & implement any lessons learned  
*ID lessons learned & figure out what worked (scale up)*

Pala partnered with USEPA & Booze, Allen, Hamilton to solve our recycling problem with a CBSM Pilot Program.

- Helped ID the goals (behavior change) we wanted
- How to ID our audience's barriers/incentives
- Helped design our pilot
- Developed outreach material for us
- How & what to track to measure success

# Lessons Learned



What we've learned from working on grants.

# Review Your Results

## Results of Pilot

### Slight increase of curbside recycling

- Increase in the weight of our non-CRV bins
- Increase in quantity recycled at curbside

### Drop-off in participation halfway through

- Direct correlation between a drop-off in our outreach & a drop-off in curbside participation

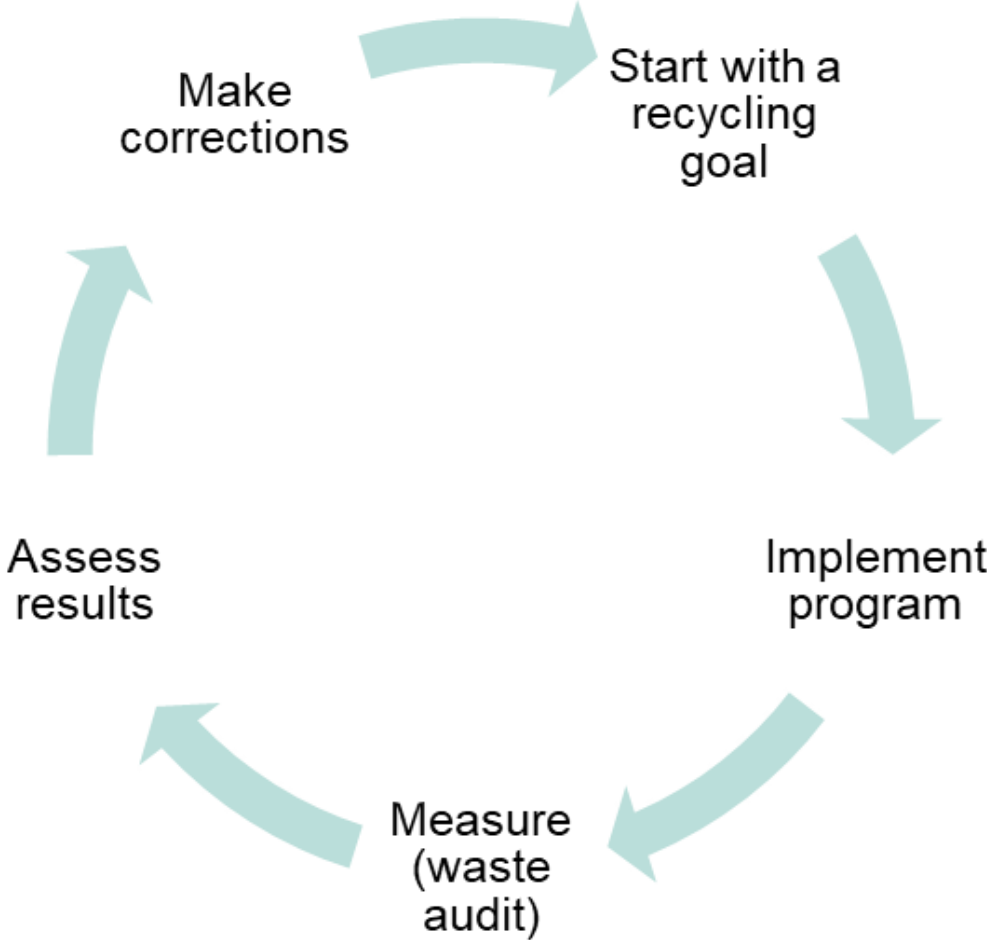
Tracking Pala's Curbside Recycling Pilot  
WEEKLY LOG / Pala Transfer Station  
Curbside / Blue Bin Materials Only - materials that do NOT end up in co-mingled EDCO Recycling Bin

Week Date	Total / Incoming Weight of Curbside	Aluminum (Cans) Weight	Plastic (CRV) Weight	Glass (CRV) Weight	Cardboard Weight	Total CRV diverted for curbside	[calculated weight for EDCO comingled bin]	curbside participation
April 18-20	1045	9	26.5	81.5	453	570	475	83
April 25-27	894	13.5	25	54	356	448.5	445.5	83
May 2-4	837	11	28.5	32.5	359	431	406	90
May 9-11	898	14	37	63.5	526	640.5	257.5	80
May 16-18	742	7	15	50.5	350	422.5	319.5	84
May 23-25	777	5.5	14	39.5	320	379	398	75
May 30 - June 1	964	4.5	34.5	63.5	418	520.5	443.5	76
June 6-8	901	6	10	40	399	455	446	79
June 13-15	736.5	5.5	17.5	44.5	284	351.5	385	70
June 20-22	872	7	20	59	375	461	411	
June 27-29	578	8	24	27	241	300	278	

### Evaluating Results & Outlining our Next Steps

- Crunch the #'s & see what worked/what didn't work
- Take what worked, scale it up
- Review the barriers & brainstorm new ways to tackle them

- Continue outreach
- Need to purchase more blue bins
- HHW Curbside Pilot Program
- Updating Tribal Codes
- Increase quantity & accuracy of recycling at tribal buildings



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