

Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma Solid Waste Program

Informational Guide for County Commissioners

Solid Waste Program Introduction

Each year the Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma (ACCO) offer counties a way to receive financial assistance to do solid waste clean up and/or to purchase equipment to assist in the clean up. This information packet will help guide you through some requirements and regulations to the program that is offered by ACCO.

Funding is based on a fiscal calendar year July 1, through June 30, and usually becomes available in mid to late August. ACCO applies for these additional monies through the Department of Environmental Quality and each year they award us a certain dollar amount. ACCO acts as a third party administrator of these funds.

There are (3) main programs that are available for the counties to utilize.

- Illegal Dump Clean Up
- Trash Cop Program
- Solid Waste Equipment

When applying for any of the programs there are criteria that must be met in order to stay within all the guidelines.

The following page(s) will give a brief description of what the program consists of and how you go about applying for the funding to help your county.

Applying for the funding: Solid Waste requests should be in written form then signed by the commissioner(s) making the request. You can fax your request to the ACCO office, and then forward the original document by mail. Your request need to include which project you are applying for and the amount of money you are requesting. There are limitations on monies available each year so check the program your county is interested in to see the maximum allowed.

Solid Waste Clean Up: Clean up sites must be located on a right of way in your county. Your county needs to determine the amount of money it will need to clean up the site. This can be done by using the current FEMA rates for employees, equipment, roll off charges, etc. (Counties can not use prisoners for these projects; if you do, their hourly wages can not be considered for reimbursement). You need to take “before” pictures of the clean up from several different angles. Determine the approximate cost and mail your request to ACCO. You will be notified of the dollar amount that is approved. This program allows each district to apply for funding. We try to cap most projects at \$10,000.00 to allow for several counties to do clean up projects. Once you clean up your site, forward by mail “before and after” pictures and a complete total of all costs to ACCO for reimbursement.

Trash Cop Program: The Trash Cop Program is available to all counties. This program allows the county to set up a Trash Cop Officer that patrols and issues citations for littering and illegal dumping. It is strongly suggested that you talk to your county District Attorney to see if he will support your efforts in enforcing citations and prosecuting offenders. Once you have done this, mail your request to the ACCO office requesting to participate in the Trash Cop Program. This program is done on a county basis, not by individual districts. The Trash Cop Officer must be Cleet certified and can be hired by the Sheriffs office or by the Board of County Commissioners office. The maximum for this program is \$5,000.00 per year. Your county can apply for this program each year, maximum of (3) years. After establishing a specific trust fund for fines, the goal is that your program be self sufficient at the end of the 3 year term.

Solid Waste Equipment: This program is designed to help counties obtain wood chippers to assist in debris clean up after storms. Each district in a county has the opportunity to apply for assistance for the purchase of equipment. The maximum amount allowed per district is \$20,000.00. We try to distribute the funds to help all counties. The process for the equipment program is to mail a written request to the ACCO office. You will be notified of the approval. Once approved, your county will need to go out for bid. After you accept the desired bid, your county will need to forward a copy of the invoice and a copy of the PO for reimbursement to the ACCO office.

Questions concerning the Solid Waste Program should be directed to:

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