
WASTE STREAM

From solid waste that goes into landfills, to liquid waste in the form of sanitary sewage, energy waste, to electronic waste from computers, cell phones, and entertainment devices, Missoulians are concerned about social, monetary, and environmental costs of waste. Local government and private businesses should consider ways to reuse, recycle, and reduce the local waste stream.

Goal EQ8: *Achieve Zero Waste within the Missoula community.*

Goal EQ9: *Reduce the community's solid waste to the point that the landfill is only minimally necessary.*

Objectives

1. Increase the options for diverting waste from the landfill through the development of more recycling infrastructure within the city.  
2. Encourage local reuse and purchase of recycled materials, including building materials.  
3. Continue and expand water conservation efforts, including increasing land application of wastewater and the systematic identification for repair of leaky mains.  
4. Explore additional ways to reduce commercial and industrial hazardous waste, household chemical waste, toxins, pharmaceuticals, and electronic waste from the waste stream. 

Implementation Actions

1.11, 3.3, 3.10, 4.7, 5.5, 8.1, 8.26 in Chapter 9 Actions & Outcomes.

AIR, SOIL, AND WATER QUALITY

Missoula citizens generally view clean air and water to be the cornerstones of their quality of life. The community has worked hard to improve its historically poor air quality, and is now considered to be in compliance with national ambient air quality standards. Surface and ground water run the risk of deterioration from the impacts of climate change as water temperatures rise, water flow is reduced, water courses are affected, and stream banks and flooding cycles change. The urban area ground water and sole source aquifer is also susceptible to contamination from landfills, urban storm water runoff, septic system drain fields, spills and leakages, and household hazardous wastes. The threats however, are greatly reduced in areas serviced by sewer systems. Backyard gardens and other sources of locally grown food require both clean water and soil.

Goal EQ10: *Improve Missoula's air quality and visibility.*

Goal EQ11: *Protect and enhance Missoula's surface and ground water quality and quantity.*

