

Arkansas Recycling Grants Program Timeline

1989 – Solid Waste Management and Recycling Fund created by **Act 934** to receive revenue from landfill disposal fees and distribute a portion of the funding through the Arkansas Recycling Grants Program, a competitive grant program open to public and private entities.

1991 – **Act 749** sets a state recycling goal of 30 percent of the 1991 municipal solid waste stream by 1995 and 40 percent by 2000. (Recycling grants fund facilities and equipment to help meet these goals.)

1991 – **Act 754** increased disposal fees from \$1/ton to \$1.50/ton for the Solid Waste Management and Recycling Fund.

1991 – \$2,790,412 awarded (Aug. 8) through 40 competitive grants in the first grant round. ADEQ responsible for gathering and selecting projects to fund.

1992 – **Act 8** of 1st Extraordinary Session provided administrative funding to regional solid waste management districts through the Solid Waste Management and Recycling Grants Program, with the total not to exceed \$500,000 annually statewide.

1992 - \$2,759,914 awarded (Nov. 20) through 37 competitive grants in the second grant round. An additional \$350,000 (\$25,000 each to 14 regional solid waste management districts) awarded through administrative grants.

1993 - \$1,256,245 awarded (June 16) through 16 competitive grants in the third grant round. An additional \$425,000 (\$25,000 each to 17 regional solid waste management districts) awarded through administrative grants.

1993 – **Act 1030** revised the competitive grants program into an entitlement grants program. In this case, entitlement means that each regional solid waste management district received annual funding based on a statutory formula. Responsibility shifted to RSWMDs to gather and select projects within their service area to present to ADEQ for approval.

1994 – First grant round under new Recycling Grants Program disbursed \$2,210,690 through 17 regional solid waste management districts. Administrative grants now included in the total grant amount.

1994 – Total funds disbursed through the Recycling Grants Program since 1991 nears \$10 million.

1995 – **Act 463** required ADEQ to submit annual report to the governor on grants provided through the Solid Waste Management and Recycling Fund.

1998 – Arkansas surpasses 2000 recycling goal by recycling 43 percent of the 1991 municipal solid waste stream.

1999 – **Act 428** changed reporting requirements for recycling grants from semiannually to annually.

2000 – Nearly \$25 million disbursed through the Recycling Grants Program since 1991.

2001 – **Act 70** changed the time frame for the annual report to the governor from the calendar year to the state fiscal year.

2001 – **Act 94** set new recycling goals based on same year's municipal solid waste stream. Goals were to recycle 40 percent of the state's municipal solid waste by 2005 and 45 percent by 2010.

2003 – **Act 1027** established the use of the most recent federal decennial census of state population in calculating the distribution of recycling funds.

2005 – **Act 1325** made minor revisions to the costs eligible for grant assistance from the Solid Waste Management and Recycling Fund.

2005 – Arkansas's recycling rate reaches 41 percent, surpassing the recycling goal set in 2001.

2008 – Total funding provided by the Recycling Grants Program since 1991 exceeds \$50 million.

2009 – Recycling rate reaches 45 percent, the 2010 recycling goal.

2010 – Economic downturn hits recycling facilities; recycling rate drops to 32 percent.

2011 – **Act 819** clarified and modified a number of grant specifications/requirements. For instance, the act defined "solid waste reduction activities" and made these activities eligible for funding through the Recycling Grants Program. It also allowed equipment purchased with recycling grant funds to be used for other purposes as long as it was used at least 50 percent of the time on recycling activities.

2012 – Nearly \$66 million disbursed through the Recycling Grants Program since 1991.

2013 – **Act 1333** changed the Recycling Grants Program into the Recycling Distribution Program. Applications for and reports on funds awarded after August 2013 are no longer submitted to ADEQ. Reports on grants awarded prior to this date will continue as applicable statute requires.

2013 – Recycling Distribution Program disbursed a total of \$3,523,048 to the 18 regional solid waste management districts in the first distribution (Aug. 12) under the new program.