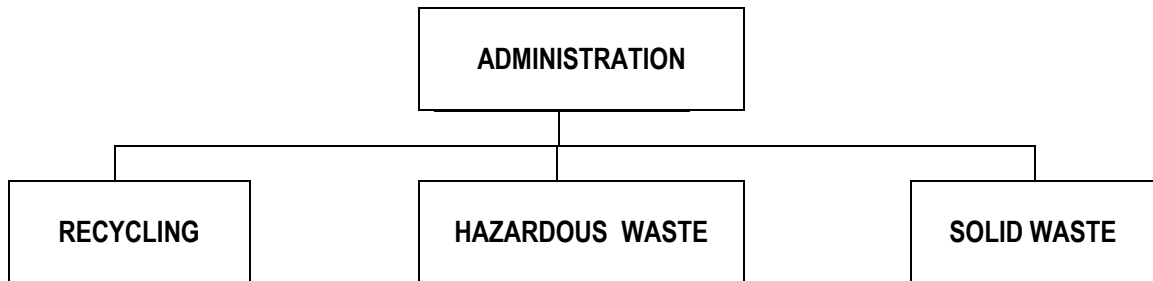


GLOW

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION

The GLOW Region Solid Waste Management Committee (GLOW) was created in 1987 to allow the Counties of Genesee, Livingston, Orleans and Wyoming to work together cooperatively to develop strategies for the management of solid waste. In mid-2003 GLOW was notified that Orleans County would no longer participate in or fund the organization. This change took effect on January 1, 2004. The remaining counties will continue at the current level of funding. The services provided by GLOW include planning, education, technical assistance, and regional program implementation, as it relates to solid waste and recycling. The benefits derived from this organization are shared by the municipal, commercial, and residential sectors within the county.

DEPARTMENT: GLOW

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Mission

In 2002, the GLOW Committee updated its Mission Statement to more accurately reflect the vision and goals of the Committee. The new statement reads as follows:

GLOW is an Inter-County agency that provides leadership in solid waste issues for residents, businesses, and municipalities.

GLOW's leadership includes education, resources, and direct services.

Key 2022 Accomplishments

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program

A single household hazardous waste collection will be held on September 17, 2022 in Genesee County. In January of 2023 GLOW will submit a grant application to DEC for funding for the program. Changes in these grants mean that applications and reimbursement requests are submitted with payment documentation at the same time, in January of the following year. Programs will continue to be held in the fall. Approval and payment for the 2018 collection, in the amount of \$11,050.23, was received in early July. Payment in the amount of \$14,264.96 for the 2019 collection was received later that month. The application for the 2020 program was submitted to DEC in January of 2021, in the amount of \$16,390. GLOW has been told by DEC that this grant is “under contract” but to date has not been reimbursed for this grant. The 2021 application is currently under review by DEC. The amount of this grant is expected to be \$13,298.70. Grants for electronics collections, (\$3 million was released by the State for collections held in 2016, used for 2017 collections, with the remainder being used for 2018 collections) work in a similar manner. GLOW was paid for 36% of eligible costs and received \$2,895.32 for electronics accepted at the 2018 Electronics Collection. Appointments began to be accepted, and advertising and promotional efforts started July 18 2022 for the 2022 programs. Because GLOW cross references the household hazardous waste and electronics collections on fliers, advertisements and press releases the Committee found that it isn't necessary to run separate ads for the electronics collection, saving in the area of \$1,500.00 each year. Based on past events, approximately two thirds of the estimated 480 residents expected to attend the event will be residents of Genesee County. Because of the volume of electronics and the amount of time it takes to unload them, for the fifth year GLOW is doing a separate electronics collection in Genesee County, one (1) week later, running from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., also by appointment and with a limit of four (4) CRT TVs and/or monitors. These collections provide convenient, environmentally sound opportunities for residents to dispose of paint, household chemicals, cleaning products, pesticides and insecticides and vehicle fluids. Over the years GLOW has also expanded its list of acceptable materials to include, propane tanks and canisters, and, until 2019, pharmaceuticals, at which point most police agencies were accepting them on an ongoing basis. As noted, GLOW will accept home computers, TVs (as it has since 2006) and electronic components at a separate collection on September 24. There being no State funding for electronics GLOW will be utilizing its fund balance to pay for the event. These programs also provides an element of protection for streams and aquifers in the county.

Pharmaceutical Collection

GLOW conducted a collection of outdated, unused and unwanted drugs in October of 2008 at the Pavilion Fire Department. GLOW accepted materials from 55 residents at this collection. GLOW had not planned to hold another collection of pharmaceuticals because of funding and state requirements to have pharmacists on site counting and cataloging controlled substances. Shortly after that the state dropped this requirement GLOW accepted them at the 2010 household hazardous waste collection and each year until 2019. Police are required to be on site to take possession of the drugs and to deliver them to Covanta Niagara in Niagara Falls for an observed burn. Over the years the number of police agencies accepting them has increased, some pharmacies now accept them and new State legislation will require large chain pharmacies and independent pharmacies with 10 or more locations to accept this material. This means that it will not be necessary for GLOW will not accept these materials at future collections.

MAT-EX: Western/Central New York Materials Exchange Program

MAT-EX continues to provide an alternative to landfilling and incineration of non-hazardous materials. Exchanges continue to be made as a result of the program's availability on the Internet. With the addition of Ontario County, the program now encompasses 12 counties (including the three GLOW counties). The result is that the program is available to residents in many western and central New York counties, with exchanges extending beyond the region.

This program continues to provide GLOW businesses, institutions, and residents with an alternative to disposal by landfill or incineration. It also provides schools, non-profit organizations and others with a means of obtaining needed materials at little or no cost.

Office Paper Recycling Program (OPRP)

For years GLOW managed the OPRP for the County. In 2019, this program was handed over to the Genesee County Central Services department.

Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant

Municipal Waste Reduction and Recycling (MWR&R) grants, which are funded by the NYSDEC's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), help pay for waste reduction, reuse and recycling programs and activities, as well as the recycling administrator position salary and fringe benefits. These grants have enabled GLOW to conduct not only its traditional waste reduction programs, such as MAT-EX, composting promotion and waste reduction advertising campaign, but also to expand and add to these programs. Receipt of these grants are essential to GLOW's ability to continue to educate the public, provide technical assistance to businesses, institutions and government agencies and offer waste reduction, reuse, recycling and composting programs. GLOW has received approximately \$562,082 through these grants for expenses incurred from April 1, 2006 to December 31, 2021. The grants are vital to GLOW's mission and continuance of programing. With the exception of a reduction in the length of these grants from three (3) calendar years to one (1) proposed changes to this grant program that could have impacted GLOW negatively were dropped. Other than the fact that Staff has to submit these applications yearly the organization can continue at the current level of funding in 2023.

Waste Reduction Ad Campaign

In 2002, GLOW modified its Ad Campaign to include distribution of reusable and recycled content products to residents who respond to the advertisements. Traditionally, ads on how to stop receiving unwanted junk mail and composting were run. Another ad featured GLOW's 3-R Challenge. Residents were also given the opportunity to win an Earth Machine™ Composter by responding to the NY/America Recycles Day ad. Two ads ran each year from 2005 through 2020, a composting ad and an America Recycles Day ad. Each year since 1997 GLOW was able to obtain Earth Machine composters free of charge from Norsman/Orbis and gave one away to a resident that responded to one of the ads. In 2018 GLOW found it necessary to purchase four (4) so that one could be given away in the years 2018 to 2021. In 2021 and 2022, in an effort to promote the Compost Demonstration Site at Letchworth State Park, the composting advertisement was run the last week of April and the first week of May. A postcard that contained four (4) questions related to the site was sent with the composting packets. Residents visiting the

site, answering the questions and returning the card to GLOW are eligible to win a food scrap container. Similar promotions were run in May of 2017, 2018, 201, 2020 and 2021. There were two submissions in response to the 2022 ad and GLOW will award a scrap bucket to one of them on September 9. The GLOW/NY Recycles Day advertisement will run in November of 2022. The Committee also relied on press releases, mailings (in response to phone calls) and word of mouth.

Backyard Composting

GLOW continues to sponsor two (2) Backyard Composting Demonstration Sites. The sites are located at Genesee County Park and Letchworth State Park. The sites have a variety of homemade and manufactured composters and signage. Printed information is available in a "take one" box. The sites are essentially self-serve in nature. They are an important component of GLOW's efforts to encourage waste reduction through backyard composting. In the spring of 2019 the site at Genesee County Park and Forest was rehabbed and improved. Materials were obtained by the park and the rehab was completed in the spring of 2019 by Park Staff. It features a new arrangement, new signage, a take one box and new implements. In the spring of 2021 the Letchworth Composting Demonstration Site was moved back to the Trailside Lodge area (next to the Humphrey Nature Center), after five (5) years of being located at High Banks Camping Area. There was no cost to GLOW. This site is maintained by Letchworth Staff and is seeing an increase in use.

For a number of years GLOW was able to get pallets of Earth Machine composters, manufactured by Norseman Plastics of Canada on consignment and have them available to sell to residents. There was no cost to GLOW. GLOW sold them to interested residents for \$43.20 and had residents write checks directly to Norseman/Orbis. GLOW relied on press releases, information distributed at fairs, home shows and other public events, as well as residents who have purchased them in the past to find buyers. Approximately 200 composters were sold. GLOW is no longer able to obtain these composters. GLOW is able to refer residents to compost sales in nearby Erie County. Erie County holds yearly pre-order/pre-pay sales of these composters and related items and allows GLOW residents to participate. Composting continues to be promoted at public events such as fairs and through school and community presentations.

Composting/Recycling Performances

In 2001 and 2002, in an effort to reach as many people as possible with its waste reduction/recycling/composting message, GLOW hired area environmental performers to appear at area festivals and public events. The performances allowed GLOW to reach children and adults who might not attend an event featuring only an environmental theme, but would watch the performances when they are attending a larger event. Due to budget concerns, as well as concern over how many residents were being impacted by the program, GLOW suspended this program. If funding is available in the future the Committee may resurrect this program.

"Don't Throw That Away" Game Revision

In late 2002, GLOW revised its recycling game. The game board was modified and printed on laminated card stock. Revised game questions are now geared more specifically to the region. The game targets 5th graders. In March of 2003 the game was hand delivered to 5th grade teachers, youth groups and 4-H offices. Four editions of a newsletter containing environmental and program information, as well as lesson plans geared to this grade were also published. In 2007 the game was promoted and distributed at Genesee County's Family Game Night and at

other public appearances. Additional efforts will be made to distribute it to various other youth groups and home schooling organizations.

“Recycling Challenge” Game

Staff needed an interactive activity for events, particularly summer recreation days, where children come and go at will. GLOW’s Recycling Tree, used at Conservation Field Days and schools, required a “captive audience” that would listen to an explanation of it. Consequently this new game was created. It consists of a 3 panel foam core display with an explanation and graphics in the middle, “Recyclables” on the left and “Recycled Into” on the right. Items are attached to the board with Velcro and the items on both sides have a small piece of Velcro to which ribbon can be attached. The object is for children to match the recyclable to what it gets recycled into. It has been used at a number of events over the past few years and has been well received. The total cost was approximately \$35.

Picnic in Park

As part of its community participation efforts, for a number of years GLOW set up a waste reduction and recycling display at the Picnic in the Park event in Batavia. This provides GLOW with the opportunity to distribute information on solid waste, waste reduction, composting and recycling. It also affords GLOW the opportunity to promote ongoing programs and provide answers to questions on proper disposal of various materials. There was no cost for this program. GLOW participated in this event in 2019. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the 2020 and 2021 the event was canceled. The 2022 event was canceled due to funding issues. The hope is that the event will return in 2023 and GLOW is able to participate.

Key 2023 Goals

Please be advised that these programs are tentative. In light of State budget constraints, anticipated grant funding may not be available. Because of this, some of these programs may be scaled back or eliminated.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program (HHW)

A single household hazardous waste collection in 2023 is expected to be held in Livingston County. As noted previously GLOW will submit a grant application and reimbursement request to DEC in January of 2024 for funding for the program. These collections provide convenient, environmentally sound opportunities for residents to dispose of household chemicals, cleaning products, pesticides and insecticides and vehicle fluids. Over the years GLOW has expanded its list of acceptable materials to home computers, TVs and propane tanks. There is no longer state funding for electronics. As a result, GLOW has been paying for a single separate electronics collection that is held a week or two after the household hazardous waste collection and covering the entire cost of the collections.

Municipal Recycling Program

GLOW will continue to work with municipalities to identify areas of opportunity to enhance existing recycling efforts, offer technical assistance to resolve problems associated with non-traditional and/or other waste streams and provide other services as needed (i.e. educational materials). GLOW will also investigate the possibility of serving municipalities through cooperative marketing agreements with area haulers and recyclers.

Recycling Hotline

GLOW will continue to maintain the Recycling Hotline. The hotline is used by the municipal, business and residential sectors as a means of accessing technical assistance from GLOW staff.

Backyard Composting

The GLOW Committee will continue to promote and encourage backyard composting in a cost effective manner. Composting is one of the most efficient, low cost, and environmentally-sound methods of waste reduction. Information on this subject continues to be requested by residents and taken from the information rack at fairs and home shows. GLOW will also continue to maintain its (2) Backyard Composting Education Sites.

The overall goal of the GLOW Committee is to keep costs to a minimum, while at the same time maximizing the effectiveness of programs and services throughout the region.

BUDGET SUMMARY					
Appropriation by Object	Adopted 2021	Actual 2021	Adopted 2022	Actual 2022	Adopted 2023
Salary/Fringe	78,064	77,230	84,259	83,942	87,431
Contractual	59,320	46,776	78,130	59,213	84,197
Total Appropriation	137,384	124,006	162,389	143,155	171,628
Revenue	137,384	124,006	162,389	143,155	171,628
Net County Support	25,805	25,805	25,805	25,805	25,805
FTE's	1	1	1	1	1

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Genesee County’s annual contribution to GLOW of \$25,805 has not changed since 2012 based upon the 2010 Census data. Over the years, the GLOW Committee has worked aggressively to keep member counties contributions steady by streamlining the organization including reducing the size of its staff to one full time employee back in 2004. GLOW had a paid part time secretary until 2015. Since then, the Genesee County’s Information Technology (IT) Department has processed payroll and invoices at no charge. This arrangement will continue through 2023. The Genesee County Treasurer’s Office will continue to provide accounting services to GLOW at a cost of \$1,600 and will complete the State required Annual Update Document (AUD) on GLOW’s behalf at a cost of \$500.

The adopted 2023 Budget includes a total of \$56,300 for household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronics collections programs. This annual HHW collection will be rotated through each of the three participating counties and is slated to be held in Livingston County in September of 2023.

INDICATORS

Please see Key 2022 Accomplishments and Key 2023 Goals Sections.