

Investing in America through the
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling
State and Territory Grant Fact Sheet
Rhode Island



Grant Recipient Information

Name: Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

EPA Information

Region: EPA Region 1

Highlights

- Update the Rhode Island Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Improve management of solid waste data.
- Conduct projects to improve recycling and organics collection and management in Rhode Island.
- Assess the compatibility of bioplastics with current infrastructure.

Overview of Rhode Island's Planned Activities

Rhode Island will convene a team to update the state's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. As part of the update, the plan will examine solid waste in a comprehensive and holistic way. In addition to addressing solid waste disposal and recycling at the state's Resource Recovery Facility, the plan will include food waste diversion, e-waste management, and emerging waste streams such as solar panels and lithium-ion batteries. Data management will be improved, and the higher-quality data will be used in the update to the plan. The plan will also incorporate benchmarks and goals that reflect the state's emphasis on environmental justice. To support projects to improve recycling of organics, grant funds will be provided for technical assistance to food waste. Grant funds will also advance food recovery efforts through education and outreach in disadvantaged communities. Lastly, grant funds will be used to convene a task force to study bioplastics, with a focus on shifting away from petroleum-based plastics, as part of its Plastics: Land to Sea initiative.

SWIFR Grants for States and Territories

The 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides the largest EPA investment in recycling in 30 years to support National Recycling Strategy implementation and build a circular economy for all. As part of the Investing in America agenda, this funding can be used to develop or update plans to advance post-consumer materials management, implement those plans, and to improve data collection efforts. These grants also advance the Justice40 Initiative, which aims to ensure that 40% of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.

EPA will make the award to Rhode Island once all legal and administrative requirements are satisfied.

SWIFR Community Grant Fact Sheet

[City of Providence SWIFR Community Grant Fact Sheet](#)

