

Performance Review:

The Department of Environmental Protection, A. James Manchin Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan.

PERD's Objectives:

PERD's objectives were to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of the A. James Manchin Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan (REAP),

Key Recommendations:

The Legislature should consider:

Increasing the distribution of solid waste assessment fees to local SWAs to improve recycling and pollution prevention.

Removing aspects of REAP from DEP administration and have them administered by the West Virginia Solid Waste Management Board, and local SWAs.

Re-establishing and updating the goal to reduce the disposal of per capita MSW in landfills below the 2010 level.

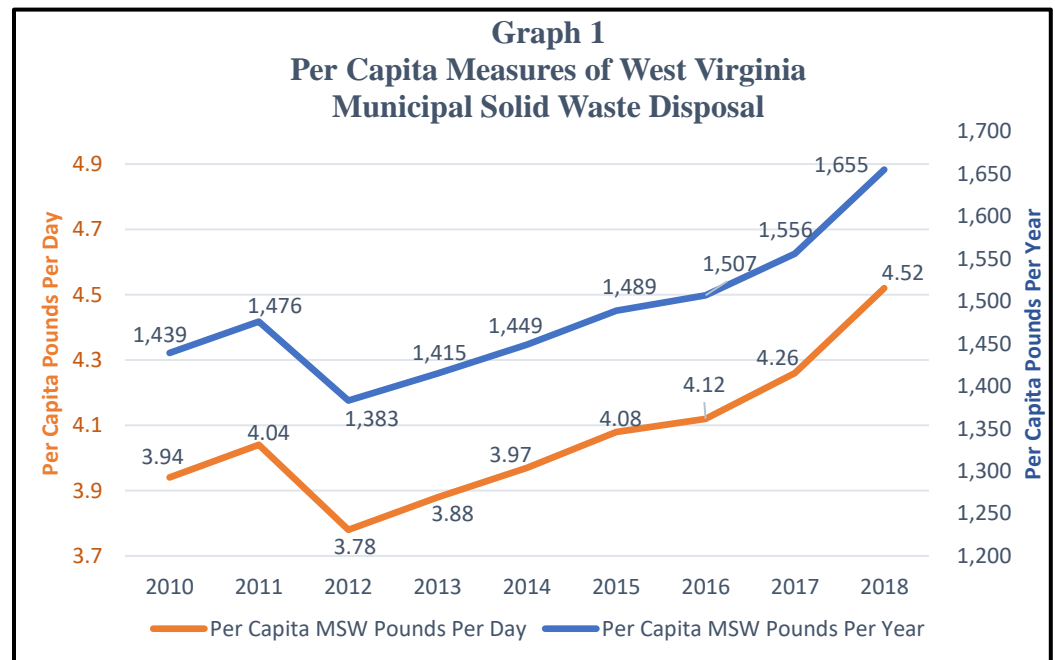
Requiring all recycling centers to report the tonnage of recyclable materials collected each year to the Solid Waste Management Board to estimate the state recycling rate.

Agency Purposes:

The A. James Manchin Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan (REAP) was created to encourage proper disposal of commercial and residential solid waste, eliminate open dumps and tire piles, and promote recycling through public awareness and recycling grants.

What Did PERD Find?

Although REAP has produced significant output, the program is inefficient and the primary desired outcomes are not being achieved. REAP has not been effective in pollution prevention or reducing per capita municipal solid waste disposed in landfills (see Graph 1 below).



- Eliminating illegal dumps has become costlier under DEP purchasing procedures.
- The DEP often cleans areas that have been re-trashed multiple times.
- High administrative costs and questionable expenditures are diverting funds from intended purposes.
- REAP cannot be effective in pollution prevention without greater resources and incentives for local solid waste authorities.
- It is recommended that REAP be restructured by redistributing more solid waste assessment revenues to local solid waste authorities and having pollution prevention, eliminating open dumps, and recycling be managed by the State Solid Waste Management Board and local solid waste authorities.