

## RECYCLING SURVEY

State Name: Tennessee

Agency Name: Division of Community Assistance

Contact Name and  
Information:

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**1. Please indicate whether recycling of household or residential recyclables is mandatory, voluntary or perhaps both (mandatory for some materials and voluntary for others) in your state.**

*Tennessee has no recycling goal, only a 25% solid waste landfill reduction/diversion goal.*

**2. Is there a State Law(s) that mandates, encourages, or otherwise facilitates the recycling system or programs in your state and what is the reference for that section of your state code?**

*Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 68-211-863, 864, and 865.*

**3. Does your state law (or other directive) mandate, encourage or otherwise specify a state goal for the rate of recycling or diversion (e.g. percentage of overall waste stream, etc.) If so, what is the statutory reference?**

*TCA 68-211-861 mandates a 25% waste reduction/diversion rate.*

**4. Please indicate how your state measures recycling rates? (Are there reporting requirements? who reports and how frequently?) What wastes are captured in the measurement of your recycling/diversion rate? (e.g. residential garbage? yard waste? commercial and industrial wastes? waste tires? white goods? automobiles? etc?).**

*Each solid waste region reports annually, via the Annual Progress Report, the tonnage of materials collected for recycling, the tonnage of materials diverted from the landfills (e.g., C & D waste), and the tonnage of materials landfilled (Class I sanitary landfills).*

*From these figures, we can determine the recycling rate and the reduction/diversion rates.*

**5. What association does commercial, institutional, and industrial recycling have with the household or residential recycling in your state? Are recycling activities from these sectors factored into your overall state recycling rate?**

*Yes, at present they are.*

**6. What is your most recently measured rate of recycling or diversion for your state? (Please indicate the time frame for this measurement. e.g. calendar year, fiscal year, etc.)**

*Calendar year 2003=18%.*

**7. What are the most commonly employed systems in your state for collecting residential recyclables. Convenience centers and curbside collection. Are different sized communities required or encouraged to meet a certain standard of recycling services?**

*No.*

**8. Do you have rural communities in your state that have developed and are maintaining successful residential recycling programs? What type of "system" are these successful communities employing?**

*Convenience center drop-off.*

**9. What incentives (grants, loans, tax incentives, etc.) are offered in your state for recycling and to whom are these incentives available? (state government, local governments, private companies, universities and institutions, etc.) How are these grants or loans funded?**

*Planning grants, annual grants to agencies, and convenience center grants funded by Solid Waste Management Fund. Matching recycling collection site equipment grants from the state surcharge on landfill tipping fees.*

**10. Does your agency or state have a "recycling program," In what agency is the program housed and how many full time employees are dedicated to recycling program activities?**

*Yes, the State Employee Recycling Program (SERP) with one (1) full time director position. This program collects mixed office and corrugated paper, and aluminum cans. It has won a national award two years' running. It is operated by the Division of Community Assistance and extends to all state office buildings.*