

Sierra Vista Environmental Stewardship Commission

**Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) grant to
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality**

**2023 Award by EPA to ADEQ (\$700,000)
from Infrastructure Law funds**

**Discussion with ADEQ Recycling Coordinator, J.B. Shaw
10/18/2024 – Karen LeMay**

Sierra Vista Environmental Stewardship Commission

CAVEAT:

This information is only for future planning.

**Until we receive results from our community recycling survey in January 2025,
and City Council approval to move forward,
no actions are recommended nor will be taken.**

All listservs I signed up for were as an “Interested Arizona Resident”

U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency



- **Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant Program (SWIFR) and Recycling Education and Outreach grant program (REO)**
- **\$117 Million in Funding Opportunities for Recycling and Wasted Food Prevention.**
- **2023 grant recipient:
ADEQ (\$700,000)**



J.B. Shaw

**Recycling Coordinator
Arizona Department of
Environmental Quality**

**1110 W. Washington St., #160
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

602.880.0646

AZDEQ.gov

- Telephone call with J.B. Shaw 10/18/2024
- Karen: “Our city commission was in the early stages of researching what recycling services our community wanted. With City Council approval, a recycling survey was just published. Results compiled in January 2025.”
- J.B.: “grant was awarded for Arizona to develop a statewide solid waste infrastructure management plan by 2026. It’s a best practices document, there are no mandates for communities in the state. Prior plan was developed in 1981. New plan is to push circular economy mentality of reducing waste (in line with National Recycling Strategy).
- “Focusing on first R in Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.”
- “One part of the plan is to partner with industry or other entities to turn trash into a resource. He sees that as a missed opportunity in the past.”

Resources from ADEQ Recycling Coordinator

1. Recycling Program Presentations to Communities

This week J.B. is giving presentation to the City of Page on recycling options, using examples of Bisbee, Patagonia and Pine Top. Each of these small rural communities uses a different fee structure with different services:

- **Bisbee:** recycling fee of \$80+/year is included in overall trash bill for each city resident.
- **Patagonia:** one drive-thru drop-off location with roll-offs provided by Republic Services of Tucson. Open for two hours/week. Donations accepted but not required. The program breaks even with city, business and private funding.
- **Pine Top:** \$2 per bag fee is charged at drop-off location.

Resources from ADEQ Recycling Coordinator

2. Analysis Tools

ADEQ partners with Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University on developing recycling best practices. ASU has developed a cost-benefit analysis tool for a community to use to determine the costs required to implement the plan.

Recycling costs ~\$100/ton

vs.

transfer/landfill costs ~\$40-65/ton.

Resources from ADEQ Recycling Coordinator

3. Grants and Marketing Information.

ADEQ will be focusing on rural community recycling programs (starting May 2025).

- grants for balers, crushers, other equipment, and
- free marketing information.

Resources from ADEQ Recycling Coordinator



**The Recycling
Partnership**
Solving for Circularity

<https://recyclingpartnership.org/>

*Goal is to make Americans
want to recycle,
understand why they are recycling
and make recycling as easy as it is
to throw something away.*

**National nonprofit with large
corporation funding partners
(Amazon, Costco, Walmart, 3M,
McDonald's, many more)**

- DIY signs
- Social media toolkits
- Press release toolkits
- Grants (recycle bins, etc.)
- Training webinars
- Behavior change program