

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Livingston County Solid Waste Management Plan was developed and approved by Livingston County Board in 1994. This plan analyzes and recommends long term waste management systems in Livingston County by addressing issues involving management of household wastes, waste reduction, recycling, reuse, landscape waste management, incineration, transfer stations, and the landfilling of waste.

The Solid Waste Management responsibility area of the Livingston County Regional Planning Commission evaluates the need for and type of programs available and feasible, both technically and economically, for recycling or reducing the amount of waste generated in the county. The office assists in evaluating and administering the Ordinance. This ordinance applies to the siting of landfills or landfill expansions, and other means of waste management. The Ordinance explains the manner in which Livingston County will evaluate new landfill area proposals.

The Solid Waste Management Plan references the host agreements Livingston County has negotiated with the Streator Area Landfill and the Livingston Landfill near Pontiac. The host agreements provide for long term disposal of waste generated within Livingston County, which is a valuable asset for the citizens of the county.

The Solid Waste Management Office is located in the Regional Planning Commission at the Livingston County Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, IL. The telephone number is 814-844-7741.

EMERGENCY SERVICES AND DISASTER AGENCY

The purpose of the Livingston County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA) is to assist in coordination of functions as may be necessary to prevent, minimize, repair and alleviate injury and damage resulting from a natural or technological cause. In the case of a disaster, this agency would work as a liaison between Illinois Emergency Management Agency and local emergency management organizations in coordinating a disaster response and recovery operation.

One of the phases of emergency management is mitigation, and one of the primary mitigation activities in Livingston County is controlled development of the unincorporated areas that are flood prone to help alleviate damage to property when a flood disaster occurs. A second phase is preparedness, which can be described as programs or systems that exist prior to an emergency that can enhance response to an emergency. An example of preparedness that can especially be of assistance during a personal or family emergency is Livingston County rural 911 Addressing System. This system assists local emergency responding to needs of the county's rural citizens.

Unless we see or hear about disasters unfolding through the media, or are personally involved in a disaster, we give them little thought. However, it is important to know what to do before, during and after a disaster to reduce fear, anxiety, damage, injury and death. Livingston County ESDA has information available to assist in preparing for fires, floods, tornados and winter storms.

Information about ESDA may be obtained at the Regional Planning Commission office located at the Livingston County Historic Courthouse, 112 W. Madison St., Pontiac, IL. The telephone number is 815-844-7741.

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Land use control administration is a complex responsibility of county government. The control of land use in the unincorporated areas of the county is administered through Livingston County Regional Planning Commission Office. Charles Schopp has served as zoning commissioner since being appointed by the County Board in 1983. The office administers the traditional major land use controls through zoning and subdivision regulations. Zoning is a term applied to regulations that prescribe the manner in which land within the jurisdictional limits of the government body may be used or developed. Comprehensive land use plans, along with zoning and subdivision regulations, define permitted uses of land and buildings as well as the intensity of which land may be developed.

The Regional Planning Commission consists of members who are appointed by the County Board for a four year term. Meetings of the Commission are open to the public and are held in the evening on the first Monday of each month, at the Livingston County Historic Courthouse.

Communication is key in enhancing the land development process. To begin this communications process the zoning administrator requests that the property developer provide the names and addresses of the owner of the property which is to be developed and the party who is developing the property, the legal description and a plot plan of the property being developed, and a description of the proposed development. Some property development proposals, including a change in the use of the property, may have some unique circumstances that may require the approval of a variation to the property, or approval of the zoning district classification amendment. The Planning Commission can discuss these types of land use development regulations as they may apply to individual situations.

As well as providing information that property owners or developers may request, the Planning Commission office maintains the communications process by listening to proposals in an effort to make land use regulation process as easy as possible

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